

THE TIMES

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Home Guard revived with 4,500 volunteers

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

The Government is to create a new Home Guard to protect some of Britain's more vital parts from crack Russian troops in wartime. A pilot scheme will start in four areas of the country next September. Details were disclosed yesterday by Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, who also announced expansion plans for the Territorial Army, including 12 new TA centres, and an adventure training scheme that will be run for young people by the Ministry of Defence.

The new reserve, fore-shadowed last year in *The Times*, will be called the Home Service Force (HSF) and, if the pilot scheme is successful, will include about 4,500 volunteers.

The Army is looking for people aged between 18 and 59 who will probably have to assemble for four or five weekends a year. Because the training periods will be few it is hoped to attract former Servicemen, regulars or reservists, or policemen, who would already know something about "drill and teamwork".

Ideally the Army would like young men in their twenties who might not be able to spare the time for the

A cry in the wilderness



A vociferous young squatter is carried off from Hatzar Adar by an Israeli woman soldier. The pall of smoke in the background comes from a pile of tyres, set on fire by opponents of the Sinai withdrawal.

Exports lead to 150,000 jobs

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

British companies have secured £5,000m of trade in the last 18 months in large contracts alone, creating at least 150,000 jobs.

This emerged yesterday from a largely optimistic report on Britain's export performance from Lord Limerick, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board. More than half the value of the contracts won round the world meant work within the United Kingdom.

Mr Peter Rees, Minister for Trade, speaking at a conference in Hamilton, Lanarkshire, on the impact of overseas aid programmes, said that every £17,000 of investment saved or created a job.

Lord Limerick treated with a touch of caution suggestions that Britain's trade surplus would go to a record £6,000m on current account for 1981. It would certainly exceed the 1980 level of £3,200m and there were signs it might be of the order of £5,000m, he said.

He was cheered by buoyant exports by manufacturers, particularly in the capital goods sector. "It looks as if we have re-established ourselves in the forefront of such international competition and this will undoubtedly have an effect in related areas," he said.

During the recession last year it looked as if the advantages had been reaped from a widespread desire to conserve, improve efficiency and establish more competitive manning levels. The improvement in productivity was the vital factor even though there was the negative side of an unemployment high level of unemployment, Lord Limerick said.

'We are only here for the cricket'

From Eric Marsden, Pretoria, March 3

On the dot of eleven at the Northern Transvaal Ground in Berea 20 familiar figures, bats swinging jauntily, crossed the pavilion boundary, and perhaps the rubicon of their cricketing lives.

As Graham Gooch of Essex and Geoffrey Boycott of Yorkshire strode to the wicket to open the innings for the South African Breweries English XI against the national under 25 team, the great rebellion was on. Last-minute telephone appeals from London had been of no avail. Telegrams to individual players were kept away—not, presumably, via the British Embassy, although it is only a brisk walk away from here. So is Union Buildings, seat of the Pretoria Government, where the policies were laid down which have kept South Africa out of international cricket since 1970.

Now, South Africans believe, the era of isolation is over. Today's match is the curtain-raiser for a tour which is to include the four-day Tests, the first in the Wanderers in Johannesburg next week.

What happened on the field was of secondary interest to the emotional fervour of the occasion. This was lucky for the South African Breweries English, who did not perform with great distinction.

Gooch, their captain, had a few lucky hits in his top scoring 33, but Boycott, perhaps still suffering from his Indian trauma, made 1 in half an hour, 3 in an hour and boiled out for 13 after 35 minutes.

Modest contributions from Amis (31), Willey (23) and Knott (27) took the score to 152 for 7 in four and a half hours when Gooch declared, somewhat optimistically.

The South African Colts' openers then began to score at double the visitors' rate. They were slowed by Underwood's accuracy but finished the day on a comfortable 50 for 1 wicket. The outstanding player of the day was Adrian Kuiper, the Colts' captain, who destroyed the English innings with 5 for 22 in eight overs.

There were no regrets on either side over the international huddle caused by the score. Before play started Gooch said in a radio interview that he and his team mates were "only here to play cricket and follow our profession".

London: Mrs Margaret Thatcher made a tougher statement against the tour yesterday as the players appeared to ignore a strong appeal from cricket authorities in London to return home and not jeopardise international cricket and the livelihoods of their county colleagues (a Staff Reporter writes).

Thatcher warning, page 21

S Africa ruling party expels 16 MPs

From Michael Horsby, Johannesburg, March 3

Sixteen right-wing MPs, including Dr Andries Treurnicht, the high priest of apartheid, were today expelled from South Africa's ruling National Party and crossed the floor of the House of Assembly in Cape Town to join the Opposition.

The expulsion came exactly a week after Dr Treurnicht and 21 other party MPs had voted against a motion of confidence in Mr Pieter Botha, the Prime Minister, over "power-sharing" in central Government between whites, coloureds (those of mixed race) and Indians.

This led to a bitter battle for control of the dominant Transvaal wing of the National Party, which Dr Treurnicht was chairman, a contest that Mr Botha won decisively last Saturday when Dr Treurnicht and his followers were crushingly outvoted at a meeting of the Transvaal party executive committee in Pretoria.

The victory enabled the Prime Minister to contain the revolt, which had Dr Treurnicht been successful, could have almost halved the party strength in Parliament, conceivably forcing it into alliance with the small anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party.

(FPF) and fundamentally rearranging the landscape of South African politics.

The show of strength for the Prime Minister made some of the rebels pause, and six of the 21 who had originally sided with Dr Treurnicht recanted.

Dr Treurnicht and his rebels now form the second biggest opposition group. The official Opposition remains the FPF, with 27 seats, led by Mr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert. The National Party retains a huge majority. Its share of the total 177 seats in Parliament dropped from 142 to 125. The only other party represented is the moderately reformist New Republic Party of Mr Vause Raw, which has 8 seats.

Although much less cataclysmic than it at first seemed, the split is nevertheless the biggest upheaval within the National Party since it came to power in 1948. A full number of party MPs are thought to sympathize with Dr Treurnicht, and the existence for the first time of a parliamentary party to the right of the Government offers a natural home for future defectors.

Transvaal vote, page 6

Israel drives out Sinai squatters

From Christopher Walker, Yamit, Sinai, March 3

The most testing stage of Israel's withdrawal from Sinai began at dawn today when several hundred troops moved into the illegal settlement of Hatzar Adar to begin the forced evacuation of Jewish militants who have moved in to the region to try to prevent its return to Egypt next month.

Using axes and crowbars, troops broke into the shacks and prefabs after the militants refused to leave. Overnight the settlers had frantically begun erecting makeshift fortifications but most of the resistance was symbolic, with no reports of casualties.

As the clearing operation took place, barricades of blazing tyres sent palls of black smoke high into the desert sky. A number of women soldiers were in tears as they joined the forcible removal of the 60 militants in the settlement, many of them followers of the extremist leader Rabbi Meir Kahane.

Despite the struggles, the emotional slogans and the frightened children, the Army succeeded in emptying the settlement within a few hours and began to dismantle it. The anti-withdrawal activists were hastily shipped back to Israel proper, while three of their number remained sadly behind by agreement to collect personal effects.

The order to begin the evacuation came directly from Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, who has earned the

Teenagers die as gales sweep Britain

Gales of up to 80 mph which swept Britain yesterday could have caused the deaths of three teenagers.

Ellen Devenney, aged 16, of Bonhill Avenue, Dumbarton, was killed when the car in which she was a passenger struck a tree brought down by the wind at Port Glasgow, Strathclyde.

A couple in their late teens also died when their car plunged into the Newry ship canal. Northern Ireland, in strong winds. They have not been named.

Many services from Northern Ireland and Scotland were disrupted and road and rail travellers faced delays around Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Thousands of homes in Scotland and the north of England were left without power.

Police sealed off part of the Galway coast as heavy seas swept containers off the stricken ship *Craigantlet*.

Forecast, back page



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Queen opens a show that hopes to run and run

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The Queen last night opened the £15m Barbican centre for arts and conferences, the largest of its kind in western Europe, amid splendid ceremony and entertainment appropriate to the occasion, mixed with relief that the project, begun in 1971 after 15 years of planning, had finally been completed.

Despite fears that no one would be able to find the centre, tucked away in five and a half acres of Cripplegate, in the centre of the City of London, 3,500 guests arrived to help launch its activities which are intended to fill 18 hours of every day, seven days a week.

The Queen said: "What has been created here must have some claim as one of the wonders of the modern world." She emphasized, however, that she was the use to which the complex would be put that would "justify the faith of those who conceived it, and the craft and skill of those who have designed and built it".

The Queen swiftly experienced samples of the varied programme offered by the centre after unveiling the simple plaque in the spacious foyer of the huge complex.

She first opened the two arts exhibitions—Aftermath, a retrospective of art in France since the 1939-45 war, and a contemporary Canadian tapestry display—then toured the centre, including the Barbican Library, and next, divided her time between the opening performances by the centre's two resident companies; the London Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

The centre, financed by the Corporation of the City of London, will cost an estimated £6m a year to run, but its administrators hope that by the sixth year it will cease to be a burden on the taxpayer by 95 per cent of its costs covered by income.

Arts, page 11

Corruption rumours linked with Kremlin power struggle

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, March 3

There is an extraordinary atmosphere of Byzantine intrigue and scandal in Moscow at the moment. As rumours of corruption at the highest level spread throughout the city, it seems evident that a Kremlin power struggle is going on behind the scenes which could touch the position of President Brezhnev himself.

The various elements in the imbricating circumstances surrounding the death in December of the deputy head of the KGB security police, the jockeying for position that has followed the death of Mr Mikhail Suslov and the sudden rise of Mr Konstantin Chernenko, a close Brezhnev protégé.

The affair began two weeks ago with the arrest of a senior official in charge of the Soviet

Union's many cirruses. Police raided the flat of Mr Anatoly Kolevatov and found a cache of diamonds worth more than 1m roubles which he is said to have extorted from circus performers in return for permission to travel on overseas tours.

His arrest has been linked to a friend known as Boris Teigen, or Boris the Gypsy, who has performed at the Bolshoi theatre and is a close friend of President Brezhnev's daughter Galina, aged 53.

A flamboyant character well known in artistic circles, Mr Teigen's friendship with the President's daughter has long been a source of gossip. He was picked up by police on the day of Mr Suslov's funeral and found also to have large amounts of foreign currency, antiques and diamonds in his home.

Ironically, the case is now being investigated by the Ministry of Home Affairs, whose deputy head is Mrs Brezhnev's present husband, Lieutenant-General Yuri Churbanov.

The charges against Mr Kolevatov and Mr Teigen are serious. Soviet citizens are strictly forbidden to deal in precious stones or to hold foreign currency. The Soviet press has recently revealed a scandal at one of Moscow's principal jewelry stores, and asked pointedly how Russians earning an average wage of 175 roubles a month could afford to buy diamonds costing 20,000 roubles.

No word of the arrests has been made public, though Mr Kolevatov's name has been removed from his office door and his deputy is also said to

Kissinger's wife accused of assault

Mrs Nancy Kissinger, the wife of Dr Henry Kissinger, faces a charge of physically attacking a woman who allegedly insulted the former United States Secretary of State (Christopher Thomas writes from New York).

A warrant for Mrs Kissinger's arrest was issued on Tuesday when she failed to appear in court at Newark, New Jersey to answer charges filed by Mrs Ellen Kaplan, of New York.

Court authorities said the incident happened last month when the couple were waiting at Newark for a flight to Boston, where Dr Kissinger had heart surgery.

"Apparently some remarks were directed at the Kissingers—or, rather, there was a personal slur at Dr Kissinger—by a demonstration in a nuclear group," Mrs Kissinger took offence and grabbed at the throat of the woman in the heat of the moment," an airport spokesman said.

Royal pictures condemned

The Press Council has condemned *The Sun* and the *Daily Star* for publishing photographs of the Princess of Wales sunbathing on a beach in the Bahamas. The council said the pictures were a "gross intrusion" into the personal privacy of the Princess.

Oil price rise accord urged

Professor Sir Douglas Hague, a senior economics adviser to the Prime Minister, said that the West should try to reach some understanding with OPEC to allow a steady annual increase in the real price of oil. Page 15

Betting levy ruling today

The Home Secretary is expected to rule today on how much bookmakers must pay to the Treasury. Betting Levy Board from April. He is likely to settle on a figure well below the £24m sought by the Treasury, which is increasing this year's £12.6m levy. Page 2

Postal profits

Fiscal profits could show a £200m rise this year, but Government cash cuts were threatening investment. Mr Ron Dearing, the Post Office chairman, told a Parliamentary Select Committee. Page 15

Villa optimistic

Aston Villa have an excellent chance of reaching the semi-finals of the European Cup after holding Dynamo Kiev to a goalless draw at Stimpertol in the quarter-final first leg. Page 20

Bonn scandal

West Germany is facing its third public scandal in a month, with the revelations of Bonn's former spy-master about the activities of BND, the intelligence service. Mr Richard Nixon is alleged to have been one of its targets. Page 8

Kissinger and the oil crisis

The oil price rises in 1973 contributed directly to the energy crisis and caused irrevocable changes throughout the world. The postwar rise in prosperity was brought to a halt, virtually overnight. Henry Kissinger, the former American Secretary of State, recalls in detail what he calls "one of the most pivotal events of the century". Page 12

'Preview' goes to the fair

The Burlington House and Chelsea antiques fairs, which make next week an important one for collectors, are featured in tomorrow's *Preview*, the 16-page weekly guide to entertainment and the arts.

Leader page 15

Letters: The South African cricket, from Mr M. G. Auger, and other letters, from Dr J. C. Thomas; Air Thorpe and Airman; from Dr Gordon McGee, and others.

Leading articles

Central America: IRA. Obituary, page 14.

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The panoramic view of London denied to its people for more than 70 years



The bastions of the City are falling. Last night the Queen opened the Barbican Arts Centre, introducing the public to new and splendid views of the Square Mile, which *The Times* featured earlier this week. (David Hewson writes). Today M Jacques Chirac, the French opposition leader, will stand 140ft above the dark and churning waters of the Thames and see this panorama. It is a sight which has been barred to the public for 71 years, but the privacy of the eyrie, from which Bill Warhurst took this photograph will soon be a thing of the past.

HMS Belfast, on the left, points a battery at the Isle of Dogs. A little farther along, the Post Office Tower peers above its lesser neighbours and across to St Paul's Cathedral. On the right, the NatWest tower dwarfs all. A gathering of tourists contemplate Traitors Gate, with the Tower itself beyond. The vantage point is one of the two iron walkways of Tower Bridge, built on the orders of a Parliament which demanded that the busy Victorian should be able to proceed across the river unimpeded when the bridge is raised for shipping.

But the bridge mechanism worked so quickly and efficiently that as soon as the 1,000-ton bascule leaves started to rise, crowds preferred to watch the spectacle, and shunned the quicker route. In 1911 an ungrateful public was relegated to the footpaths across the bridge and entry to the structure's vast inner workings has been restricted to its employees ever since.

On June 30 all that will change. The bridge has been renovated for £5m, five times its original cost, and the masses will be welcomed back with open

arms (£1.60 at the door please, half price for children and pensioners). The City Corporation expects between 500,000 and 750,000 visitors a year, which would put the bridge behind the Tower itself and Westminster Abbey in the league table of the capital's most popular attractions open to tourists.

A few creature comforts have been installed for the visitor of the 1980s. The walkways have been enclosed in glass, with portholes for photographers, and centrally heated. Modern lifts have been installed. After taking in the views and accompanying

exhibitions, the public will be led to a museum which houses the great steam engines and accumulators which once powered the bridge.

Today the bridge rises and falls by courtesy of the London Electricity Board, its staff has fallen to 15, and dull blue electrical apparatus sits in its belly. Unlike its predecessor, the machinery has been known to break down.

When the public returns to the bridge on June 30, it will be greeted by two China clippers, a Royal Navy minesweeper, a band and other motley festivities.

Crash driver 'sent home mate and ignored signal'

By Nicholas Timmins

The driver of a maintenance train who sent home his assistant driver had exceeded the speed limit and gone through a red light before crashing into the back of a mail train at East Croydon in January, a Department of Transport inquiry into the crash was told yesterday.

Mr Stephen Walton, aged 28, the driver, whose lower left leg had to be amputated seven hours after the crash, is still intensive care six weeks later. His condition is improving and he is expected to give evidence to the inquiry later.

Mr Nicholas Rowles, aged 23, his assistant driver, has been disciplined by British Rail for not being on the train. He was suspended for five days with loss of pay.

He told the inquiry at Fairfield Halls, Croydon, that after they had clocked on Mr Walton told him to go home. "I remember saying something about what happens if the train is cancelled," Mr Rowles said, but the driver had told him that it would be all right. "I think he was just trying to be friendly."

Mr Rowles, who said he had never before simply clocked on and gone home, said he had sat in his car for 10 minutes wondering what

to do then driven home. He was taken to St Paul's and told about the crash.

Other witnesses said that the maintenance train, the 00.22 from Three Bridges to New Cross Gate, had been travelling fast.

Mr Michael Wenham, aged 60, the guard, who was briefly trapped in his cab at the back of the locomotive when rails and the wagon behind it came through the wall as the train crashed, said the train was keeping within its 45 mph speed limit, had been travelling "pretty steady". It had left Three Bridges late. "I thought we were trying to make up some time."

As it approached East Croydon station, he said, he estimated the speed at about 35 mph. The inquiry heard that a 20 mph temporary speed limit was in force on the approach to the station.

Mr Kenneth Bradley, aged 35, a signaller at South Croydon, said the train had been travelling "faster than one would have expected" as it passed his signal box.

Mr Richard Budgen, aged 39, an operating depot supervisor at Croydon, who passed the maintenance train during its approach to East Croydon station, said the driver of his

locomotive said to him: "That ballast train is moving". Mr Donald Stewart, aged 47, the East Croydon signaller, said the approach signal before the station was at red because the Brighton to London Bridge mail train had just passed it and had stopped at the station.

His indicators showed the signal to be red, with warning signals further down the line. He would have expected Mr Walton to stop at the red signal and telephone him. Instead, the train continued into the station and smashed into the back of the mail train.

British Rail technical experts told the inquiry that tests had shown there was no fault with the signals and no apparent defects in the locomotive.

Major Anthony King, chairman of the inquiry, said he had now to interview Mr Walton. "What we do not know are the circumstances which may have led driver Walton to lose control of the locomotive or to cause the accident."

A British Rail official said that as far as British Rail was concerned Mr Rowles had "no responsibility whatsoever for the accident."

'Times' interview

Sir William wears all the caps that fit

By Bryan Appleyard

To those who know him almost anything Sir William Rees-Mogg took on would be unproblematic. His reputation as a polymath is well established on the basis of his disconcerting habit of displaying profound knowledge in unexpected areas. Yet it has to be said that his impending chairmanship of the Arts Council, announced last Thursday, has raised a few eyebrows. With the exception of eighteenth century literature, an interest in the arts is something he has generally left to others to cultivate.

Combine that with the fact that Mr Paul Channon, the Arts Minister, was known to have been looking for a businessman to fill the post and, in spite of Sir William's recent experience as a director of GEC, and his unsuitability would appear to be absolute. With typical elegant diffidence he is the first to admit to his shortcomings: "I am less of a businessman than a pure businessman might be and less of an artist than a pure artist might be."

The rationale, however, follows with equally typical conviction: "But I am involved in both areas and would add to that the third leg of what the Arts Council has to do: it has to be able to establish public relations with the sponsoring departments and with the press and the media."

Sir William was speaking seated in a battered, bentwood rocking chair which would be familiar to *Times* men of more than a year's standing. It is now housed in the offices of Pickering & Chatto, the Bloomsbury and antiquarian book dealer of which he is proprietor. Again, disconcertingly, this is not set in an elegant Georgian terrace but in the brutal concrete structure known as the Brunswick Centre.

Along with GEC and the bookshop there is also his role as deputy chairman of the BBC which, together with this new post, will result in him being a man of many hats. "I did when I was editing a daily newspaper."

Last week a rival publication inferred that this variety of roles was too much for one man, but it has reckoned without the discretion of Sir William's mind which can unite the disparate and envisions the world as a seamless web, an ultimately intelligible system.

Cultural side of the BBC

"I am fascinated by the way things interact, for instance through GEC I have tried to get an understanding of what is happening in electronics. That very much fits in with questions of how electronics are going to develop for the future of the BBC. Through the BBC I am very interested in the cultural side of the BBC's output. This fits directly into the work I shall be doing at the Arts Council. Of the things that the Arts Council does I regard literature, though not one of the things which is likely at any point to get the biggest funding, as very important."

"So, although I do wear a considerable number of hats actually they do interact in a way which I think does bring knowledge and experience from one to the other. There is room in our system for people that act as links between different bits of the system that help them to relate to each other."

Compensation reform sought

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

A delegation from the National Farmers' Union, the Country Landowners Association and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors is to meet Mr I. A. Christopher, the Inland Revenue's chief valuer, on March 15 to press for changes in the compensation procedures when land is compulsorily purchased.

Dr Malcolm Bell, principal secretary in the NFU's parliamentary division, says there are hundreds of cases like that of Mr John Allen-Stevens who, as reported in *The Times* last Monday, has been waiting nearly four years for settlement of his claim after a new bypass was built across his farm.

The NFU and the CLA agree on most of the criticisms. The first and most important is the sheer time it takes to agree a figure with the district valuer who,

according to Dr Bell, usually begins by suggesting a sum which is about half the market value of the land.

Months or years of argument then ensue. Often, it is said, small landowners are forced to settle for sums lower than they might eventually have received because they cannot afford to wait any longer.

There are provisions for arbitration by the Land Tribunal, but many landowners are deterred by the potential expense.

One suggested reform is the establishment of a special small claims court to hear compensation cases. Another is to restrict the power of government departments and local authorities to challenge arbitration awards in the High Court, the Court of Appeal and even the House of Lords.

Another grievance is the

inadequacy of awards to cover the cost of maintaining fences. At present the Department of Transport has responsibility only for fencing off motorways.

Both the department and local authorities, as well as such statutory undertakings as gas and electricity boards, usually disclaim any responsibility for damage caused by contractors. That can involve landowners in expensive litigation against an elusive quarry.

Dr Bell also questions the fairness of the Land Compensation Act, 1961, which states that land acquired by compulsory purchase must be valued as though it were bought from a willing seller. In fact, he points out, sellers are usually very unwilling.

A little more generosity to landowners would not, it is said, hurt the taxpayer unduly.

Nature trails from rubbish tips

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Ecologists believe that rubbish tips may have a more promising future as nature trails than as cornfields or housing estates. "I think we can argue that it can be the cheapest and most convenient solution," Mr David Parker, an officer with the environmental advisory unit at Liverpool University, said yesterday.

Speaking at a conference of the Institution of Municipal Engineers in London, he offered an alluring vision in which butterflies fluttered over the remains of countless cans and toothpaste tubes while warblers nested over

the shredded remains of office memoranda.

"The bramble is a valuable plant for insects, and the flowers can support substantial numbers," Mr Parker said. "The bramble will also attract people to pick blackberries in the autumn."

A rubbish tip or disused gravel pit could be restored to provide a gently-sloping woodland walk interspersed with open glades. The variegated landscape would be necessary because trees would not grow on those parts of the tip where explosive methane gas was close to the surface.

Mr Alan Parker, of the waste research unit at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, Oxfordshire, told the conference that the gas sometimes caused explosions in buildings on rubbish sites.

Dr Graham Parry, director of the Liverpool unit, explained that slow underground decomposition could produce methane which would kill farm crops on the surface by starving their roots of oxygen. "It is a nice idea to consider the reclamation of landfill sites for agriculture, but it is not without its problems."

Communion by woman defended

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Anglican Bishop of Newark, New Jersey, has rejected criticism by the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, of a Holy Communion service celebrated by a woman priest in St Paul's, Newark.

The Rt Rev John Spang, a bishop of the Episcopal Church of America, told his congregation in Trinity Cathedral, Newark, that Leonard was stretching the concept of the established church to breaking point.

The Church of England has declined to ordain women, and does not allow women ordained elsewhere to officiate as priests in England.

The Rev Elizabeth Canham was licensed to officiate in the United States by Bishop Spang in December.

She then came to England and celebrated the eucharist in the church of St Paul's in private. Dr Leonard deplored this, saying that the service was illegal.

The Very Rev Alan Webster, Dean of St Paul's, said the service had taken place with his consent, and he did not accept that it was illegal.

Bishop Spang's statement claims that there were deeper issues behind the event than the Dean's consent to it, including "religious arguments" produced to criticize it. He went on to criticize the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, for supporting Dr Leonard.

The Movement for the Ordination of Women has been planning a private communion service conducted by a woman priest from overseas to be attended by a diocesan bishop.

Lawyers oppose new powers for courts

By Frances Gibb

The Government's new powers for judges and magistrates to suspend part of a prison sentence, to relieve prison overcrowding, are being opposed by the Law Society, the solicitors' professional body.

The powers, which the Government intends to introduce on March 23, will be debated by MPs examining the Criminal Justice Bill in committee today. The Law Society has written to all members of the committee setting out its opposition to the measure which, it believes, will increase the number of offenders in already "grossly overcrowded" prisons.

More offenders will be sentenced to immediate imprisonment because courts which might have imposed suspended sentences will now be tempted to give offenders a taste of prison, the society says and many offenders who would have been given short immediate prison terms will be given a term, part of which will be suspended and activated if the offender commits another offence.

The society adds that in the opinion of its criminal law committee, it is "wrong in principle for an offender to leave prison with a suspended sentence hanging over his or her head."

Initially, the new powers will apply only to offenders aged 21 and over who are sentenced to not less than six months and not more than two years in prison. Courts will be able to suspend between one quarter and three quarters of the sentence.

Provisions in the Criminal Justice Bill are intended to make the use of partly-suspended sentences more flexible.

The society has also expressed concern over another measure in the Bill which has aroused opposition from, among others, the Legal Action Group, the lawyers' pressure group: the measure

to relax the eight-day remand rule, so that it will no longer be necessary to bring prisoners on remand before courts every eight days.

The Magistrates' Association yesterday criticized a measure in the Bill which empowers the Home Secretary, in an emergency, to release prisoners. Lady Ralph, chairman, said: "There are principles deeply valued in our system of justice which should not be undermined in a time of crisis. This measure allows the executive to set aside a decision of the judiciary and a number of magistrates are very concerned about it."

The decision should be submitted to Parliament, she said. "Law and order is established by the attitude of the public and the Home Secretary should not, at a stroke, be able to undermine the practice of the law."

Sir Nicholas Bonsor, Conservative MP for Nantwich, is expected to table an amendment to meet the association's objections when the clause is debated in committee today.

'Straight' report call

A monthly government publication containing reports of Scottish crime and court cases is needed to counterbalance the media's highly selective reporting of the subject, a report from Glasgow University's Department of Sociology said yesterday. (David Hewson writes).

The authors of the report, said that crimes involving sex and violence appeared more frequently in newspapers than their occurrence would justify.

They recommend that the Scottish Home and Health Department implement an independent channel of information on the "true picture" of crime in Scotland. *Bias in Newspapers Crime Reports* (John Dillon, James Duffy, Glasgow University).

BLACKMAIL CLAIM IN FRAUD CASE

From Our Correspondent Manchester

Julie Goodeyear, the Coronation Street actress, was blackmailed by a former boy friend, a jury was told yesterday.

Mr William Clarke made the allegation at Manchester Crown Court where the actress and two other women deny conspiracy to defraud the public over a charity collection.

Clarke, who has already admitted fraud, was being questioned about a piece of paper which he said contained the name and address in Weston-Super-Mare of the actress's former boy friend. Clarke handed the paper to Julie Gerrard, saying that it was in Miss Goodeyear's handwriting and that she had asked him to visit the actress.

When asked if it was the name of a man to whom Miss Goodeyear had been engaged he replied "Yes, and he was blackmailing her". Mr Harold Singer, counsel for Miss Goodeyear, alleged Clarke was trying to "Get in another dig" at the actress. "You are forcing me to do that", Clarke replied.

The prosecution alleges that Miss Goodeyear, aged 39, of Rochdale Road, East, Heywood, Manchester, Janet Ross, aged 28, of Beewick Road, Blackpool, and Victoria Montague, aged 24, of Gloucester Street, Atherton, Lancashire, were part of a conspiracy to defraud the public.

It has been claimed that a competition to raise cash for a cancer research fund did not sell enough tickets to pay for the prize car. The winner of the car was fixed and the vehicle then sold with the money being put back into the fund, it was alleged. The trial was adjourned until today.

Take a new look at THE LISTENER

NOW WITH THE VIEWER/LISTENER GUIDE TO BBC DRAMA, FILMS AND MUSIC FOR THE WEEK AHEAD.

This essential guide for discerning viewers and listeners is an addition to our regular features - including in this week's issue the letters of Stalin's daughter Svetlana to Malcolm Muggeridge, and Robert Robinson's BBC tv portrait of W. H. Auden.

THE LISTENER

ON SALE NOW 50p

SDP support slips as the Jenkins campaign opens

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

A marked fall in support for the Social Democratic and Liberal Alliance in the past week, indicated in opinion polls, is confirmed by an analysis published today of voting behaviour in local by-elections.

The downturn in the fortunes of the alliance coincides with the effective opening of the campaign for the parliamentary seat of Clackmannanshire, for which the SDP's Mr Roy Jenkins, the main proponent of the alliance, is contesting the seat. The SDP's Mr Jenkins is the only one who is not an MP, is contesting the seat for the alliance; the Liberal Democrats and the Liberals, both see his success in returning a Conservative majority of 2,002 (or 5.6 per cent) as crucial to their future.

But whereas before Christmas the alliance was winning two out of every three local by-elections that ratio fell to ten out of 28 in January, and to four out of 19 in the three weeks in February.

The analysis, published in this week's *New Statesman*, is the work of the paper's political editor, Mr Peter Kellner. Comparing the votes cast in February in 16 elections where there were three-party contests with the results in 16 similar seats in November, Mr Kellner has recorded an eleven-point drop from 49 per cent to 38 per cent in support for

Gain and losses in local by-elections

	Before	Net	Now
Cons	22	-8	14
Lab	6	+4	10
Lib	3	+7	10
SDP	0	-2	2

alliance candidates in the course of the three-month period.

□ Although new figures suggest that the Social Democratic Party is slipping in popularity against the established Labour and Conservative parties, SDP managers reported yesterday about 400 new members are still coming in each week. That is taken by them as a more reliable guide to state of public opinion. (Our political staff writes).

Total membership is now about 79,000, a year after the launching of the new party. What is crucial is the rate of membership renewals at the end of a year's political activity. The SDP leader would like it to be 100 per cent, but they accept that 75 per cent would be more realistic taking into account the first rush of support.

£4,000m plan to cut unemployment

□ The SDP yesterday proposed a £4,000m injection into the economy in next year's Budget and said it would have the same effect on reducing unemployment as the Labour Party's suggested £9,000m boost. (Philip Webster writes).

Mr John Horam, the SDP's economic spokesman, described the package put forward on Tuesday by Mr Peter Shore, the Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, as wildly inflationary and said that the main measures being pressed on Sir Geoffrey Howe by his own backbenchers would have a minimal impact on reducing unemployment.

The SDP Budget package, whose effect, Mr Horam said, would be to restart economic expansion, is aimed at taking one million people out of the dole queues in two years, a similar objective to that set by Mr Shore.

In terms of adding to public borrowing it is notably more cautious than the budget package put forward by Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, which envisaged a £6,000m boost. The difference is largely accounted for by the views of the two parties on the national insurance surcharge which the Liberals want to abolish, and the SDP wants to cut to 1.5 per cent.

The SDP proposes substantial public investment to reduce unemployment by 300,000 over two years and four measures to create jobs. Those are a £70 a week subsidy to employers for each additional worker employed, who had previously been unemployed for six months; a crash house-improvement and insulation scheme; a youth employment subsidy of £30 a week.



Scotland Yard, Interpol and port and airport authorities have been alerted in an attempt to stop Mrs. Shulamit Martin, aged 31, (above) from leaving Britain with her son, Gil, aged five, (right). It is believed she may be heading for Israel where her family lives.

A High Court judge in London has ruled that the boy should be returned immediately to his father, Mr Arnold Martin, (above) who raised the alarm when his wife and son went missing from the family home in Epping Upland, Essex, on Saturday.

Mr Martin, aged 35, an aircraft broker, said: "I haven't a clue why she has done this. I had no indication that she had intended to leave. We had some problems



about two years ago. She took Gil to Israel on that occasion. But we have been back together for some time. The judge lifted reporting restrictions in the hope that publicity would help trace the missing mother and son.

Violence in schools: 3

Children bored to disruption

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

About one million children in England and Wales, or one in 10 pupils, have marked emotional or behavioural problems, according to research by the Schools Council. A tiny, but growing, minority are considered sufficiently disturbed or disruptive to need special treatment away from "normal" children. The great majority remain in ordinary schools. Who are they?

A recent survey by HM Inspectorate for Schools (HMI) of short-term special behavioural units for disruptive pupils found a wide variety of children. Some were violent towards their teachers, their peers or both; others were quiet and withdrawn.

Some were clearly emotionally disturbed, others clearly not. Many had histories of petty delinquency and anti-social behaviour in and out of school, but a fair proportion had been in trouble only when in school.

The most common features found among the pupils in the units were that they had experienced serious difficulties in their relationships with adults, particularly teachers; they tended to have unsatisfactory home backgrounds; and they were overwhelmingly boys between the ages of 14 and 16.

In general, they were not among the least able. They tended rather to be just below average in ability, but not so limited as to be singled out for special help in remedial groups.

ified in its secondary school survey as often giving the greatest cause for concern, not because they were the most troublesome but often did nothing to stimulate or develop them.

Mr Eric Bolton, the senior inspector for educational disadvantage, believes most disruptive children may not be very different from their peers. "Perhaps they represent the vociferous and rebellious tip of a much larger iceberg of bored and unmotivated pupils who as they get older find themselves less and less engaged by what schools offer", he says.

Mr Rom Harré, Fellow of Linacre College, Oxford, who has recently completed four years research into classroom violence and football hooliganism, believes there is a common factor underlying both forms of anti-social behaviour, an attempt by a child who feels devalued and humiliated to win back respect and dignity.

"I and my fellow researchers believe that a very large proportion of these incidents are ritualistic", he says. "In school, seriously disruptive pupils are by and large those that think the school system has devalued them."

"Children believe that one way a school shows its respect for a particular class is to give them a strong teacher. They regard a weak, ineffective teacher as a deadly insult. Their first move is therefore to test the teacher with some relatively trivial disturbance to see how he or she reacts. "The kind of teacher they

respect most is an almost comic-book character — grey hair, tweed jacket, pipe-smoking, rather old-fashioned. It's pretty dangerous to appear dressed more or less as one of the kids."

Dr William Parry-Jones, consultant psychiatrist in charge of the Highfield family and adolescent unit at the Warneford Hospital, Oxford, who has been conducting research in the way teachers handle disruptive pupils, also believe that pupils prefer firm directive teachers.

"We found that the teacher who you or I may think is democratic, understanding and sympathetic in his dealings with children may not be seen as such by the pupil. At home and at school, children want adults who mean business, who do not try to blur the generation gap, who lay down explicit rules, and who explain what they are doing. I am not for a moment advocating old-fashioned, authoritarian discipline but children see lack of control as offensive."

Dr Parry-Jones is reluctant to provide a profile of "the disruptive child". Many factors are involved, he says, and much more research is required to discover how important each is. But of one thing he is like so many others, is increasingly convinced that schools and teachers can have a great influence for better or for worse on a child's behaviour, whatever that child's home background.

Toll of winter

Roads falling into ruin, motor lobby says

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

Thousands of miles of roads are crumbling after one of the worst winters this century, according to a study out today.

Unless councils' maintenance spending is allowed to rise many minor roads will fall into complete disrepair and will have to be closed. Others will become more dangerous, especially to pedestrians and cyclists, the British Road Federation says in a report to the Government.

Road maintenance has been cut by 19 per cent in real terms over a decade, in which traffic has grown by 14 per cent and there is now an unacceptable level of neglect and risk, the federation says. It adds that to return to standards of the early 1970s, which were regarded as inadequate then, an extra £100m needs to be spent each year and next, the equivalent of less than 3 per cent of this year's £6,000m "surplus" of road tax over road expenditure.

In the height of this winter's snow and frost, some counties spent £500,000 a week on gritting and clearance; money from severely pruned budgets which was not therefore available for road improvement.

The federation is even more concerned about the undermining of roads by frost and ice that breaks up

Local road maintenance and traffic: Britain

	Maintenance	vehicle	traffic
	£m	index	index
1973	320	100	100
1975	270	84	118
1978	205	64	110
1980	195	61	113
1981	185	58	114

the surface and allows water into the sub-structure. This damage is estimated to cost tens of millions of pounds.

"No one needs to be told of the visibility of spending restraints", the report says. "The potholes, overgrown verges, and unrepaired crash barriers are plain to see. More serious are the problems invisible to the ordinary road user: the underlying structure of the country's roads is at risk."

Grass cutting is now so minimal that drains get blocked and saplings start to grow in culverts, preventing the road draining properly and leading to structural damage. Road signs are becoming obscured.

The federation says local authorities should be encouraged to reinstate their planned programmes of cyclic maintenance, making the most effective use of resources. The alternative is to allow minor roads to fall into complete disrepair, become unusable except by the most robust traffic, and eventually close as some have already done.

Criticism of private beds trend

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

The encouragement being given to private medicine by the Government was criticised yesterday by Sir Douglas Black, president of the Royal College of Physicians.

Sir Douglas said that had been opposed to the partial phasing out of pay beds in the health service because it took doctors away from their main hospital. "But I view with misgiving the opposite phenomenon of giving positive encouragement to a great expansion of the private sector, which is bound to lessen determination to make the health service work efficiently."

He agreed with the general judgement of the Royal Commission on the National Health Service that in the sixties and early seventies there was a reasonable balance between public and private provision of health services.

Sir Douglas, who was giving the Dame Juliet Rhys-Williams memorial lecture at the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecologists in London, said that the encouragement of the private sector was a serious concern for the future of the health service.

Working party on test-tube ethics

□ The British Medical Association's council yesterday accepted the recommendation of its ethical committee and agreed to set up a working party to consider the ethical implications of work on "test-tube" babies.

The association's central ethical committee and board of science is to decide its membership and terms of reference, and will report back to the next council meeting at the beginning of May.

£1m appeal to save woodlands

By Ronald Faux

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) yesterday launched a £1m appeal to protect woodlands. Birds depend on woodlands and the RSPB said that about half Britain's ancient forests had disappeared since the war with serious repercussions for the birds living in them.

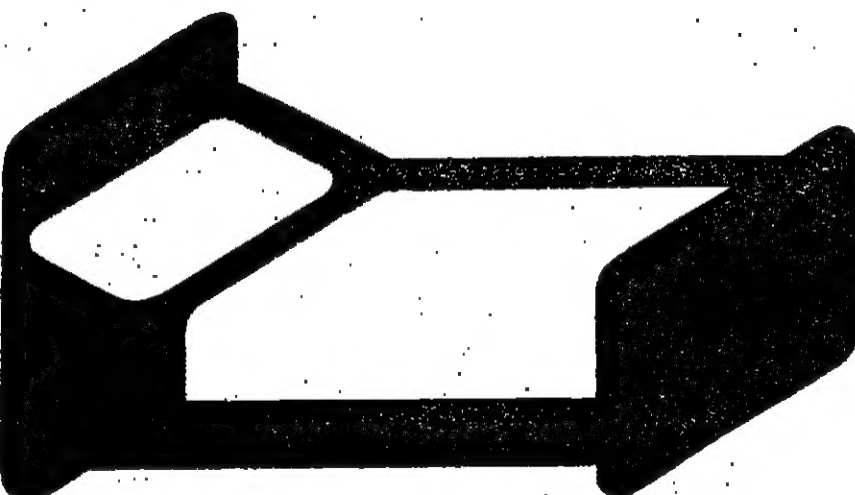
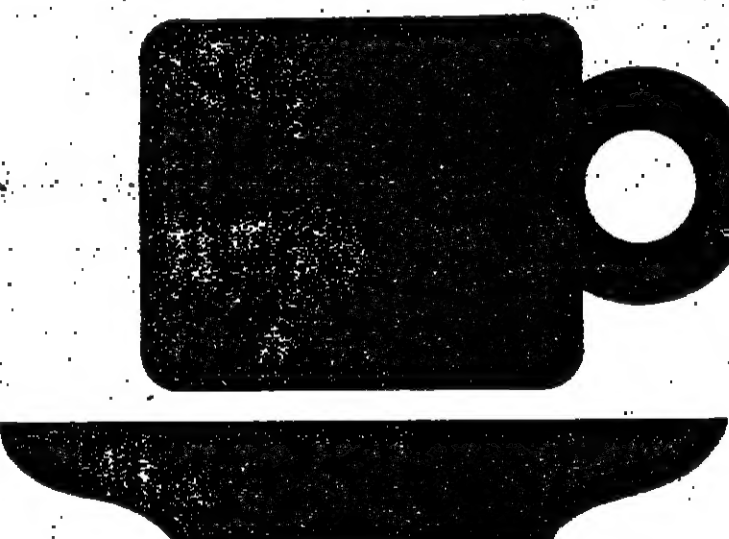
According to the most elegant logic, if things go on as they are, the last British hardwood will thud to the ground in the year 2020. If that projection has a ring of the eighteenth century fears that the growth of horse-drawn traffic in London could lead to the city disappearing under a heap of peering under a heap of peering.

Mr John Davy, deputy chief reserve officer for the society, said that as much woodland had been lost in the last 40 years as was felled in the previous 400.

"It is a very serious position", he said. "About half of the 204 species breeding in Britain depend on woodland."

The RSPB hopes that its Woodland Birds Survival Campaign will raise money to buy tracts of natural woodland that can be protected as nature reserves where rarer species can breed safely. The society is negotiating to acquire 400 acres of the finest oak forest in Southeast England, which supports a fine community of nightingales, hawfinches, redstarts and sparrowhawks. All types of old woodland are at risk. Birchwoods have disappeared as fuel for log burning stoves. The ancient caledonian pine forest has dwindled to about 22,000 acres. Oak woodland on the hillsides of the West Country, Wales Cumbria and the Pennines has been greatly reduced because grazing sheep were allowed to eat the seedling trees.

Where can you do all this without stopping?



These signs should be familiar enough to anyone who's driven on Britain's roads. And very welcome they are too. But each time you feel like a bite to eat or need to stop for a rest, you're lengthening the time of your journey. And as far as business drivers are concerned, time is money.

On the train you can make use of these facilities without adding to your journey time. For example, each weekday around 300 Inter-City trains have a Travellers Fare Restaurant Car where you can enjoy excellent meals including our Great British Breakfast.

There are considerable direct cost savings to be made too. Compare a £10 or £15 sleeper with the cost of a night in a hotel.

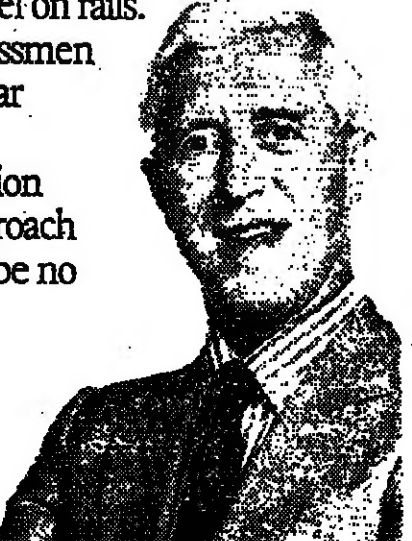
There are other benefits of train travel for which no road symbols exist. Like space to stretch your legs; ergonomically designed seats (cramp and back ache are

just different forms of 'car sickness'), air conditioning on many trains, superb views, a table to work at (try working in the car—or rather don't) and freedom from motorway jams.

And at over 70 Inter-City stations you can pick up a Godfrey Davis hire car to complete the journey door-to-door.

The train offers businessmen a unique environment to work and relax in, almost a luxury hotel on rails. Which, presumably, is why even businessmen with prestigious company cars are regular business rail travellers.

By train you arrive at your destination refreshed and alert. And when you approach meetings in that frame of mind there'll be no stopping you.



This is the age of the train ➡

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Sadat trial evidence cut short

Cairo.—The military court trying 24 Muslims accused of assassinating President Sadat ordered the termination of defence evidence and said there would be a verdict on Saturday. The move was bitterly condemned by Defence lawyers as the "end of a mass slaughter". (Our Correspondent writes).

The trial started on November 21 amid official comments that it would end in one month. But the defence said recently it was attempting to put Sadat's policies on trial to justify his assassination. Lawyers claimed they had completed the defence of only 10 accused.

Mr Abdel Ramadan, head of the 35-man defence team appeared agitated and angry about the court ruling. "The 24 are human beings entitled to a fair and legal trial. We needed at least 40 more sessions to complete our defence," he added.

Senators deal blow to busing

Washington.—The Senate has approved by 57 votes to 37 the most far-reaching anti-busing legislation ever to be put before either house of Congress. The Bill would virtually outlaw busing as a means of desegregating public schools by prohibiting federal courts from ordering students to be bused more than five miles or 15 minutes from their homes (Nicholas Ashford writes).

Conservatives have hailed the vote as a big victory. However, the legislation still has to be approved by the House of Representatives where it is expected to meet tough opposition.

Yugoslavs shot in Brussels

Brussels.—Two Yugoslavs were killed and three injured in a shooting at a Yugoslav community centre here. One of the injured was seriously ill.

According to witnesses, a man entered the centre armed with a sub-machine gun and opened fire before escaping.

Stalking upsets Mrs Onassis

New York.—Mrs Jacqueline Onassis, who has complained to a federal judge about the "relentless stalking and constant surveillance" of her and her children by a celebrity photographer.

In 1975, a judge ordered the photographer, Mr Ronald Galella, to stay 25ft away from Mrs Onassis and 30ft from her children. Ruling that Galella was getting too close, the court decided yesterday on another hearing to determine penalties.

UN gets yellow rain evidence

New York.—The United States has submitted to the United Nations a detailed account of independent medical analysis of blood samples taken from victims of an alleged yellow rain onslaught in Cambodia (Zoriana Fysarowsky writes). It admits, however, that the evidence is largely circumstantial.

In its letter, Washington appears more interested in providing information that could benefit its own investigation than with passing categorical judgment.

Token strike by French doctors

Paris.—For the second time in three months, several associations of hospital doctors called their members out on strike in protest against the plans of M Jack Paline, the Communist Minister of Health, to abolish private hospital beds (Charles Hargrove writes).

The "strike" was mostly a token one. Doctors cared for in-patients and emergencies but not out-patients. About 1,000 doctors in white coats marched on the Ministry of Health and handed in a petition.

Guerrillas raze health clinics

Guatemala City.—Clinics in western Guatemala have been burnt down by guerrillas fighting to overthrow the Government, Señor Roguelino Recinos, the Health Minister, said yesterday.

Police said only four of the 31 health centres in Huehuetenango province had not been attacked by guerrillas.

Poles to reduce trade links with the West

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, March 3

Poland is preparing a radical shift in its trading pattern to minimize its economic dependence on the West, according to an official who accompanied General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, to Moscow.

The official, who wanted to remain anonymous, said three levels of economic aid had been discussed in Moscow. First, there was Soviet assistance to relieve the immediate effects of the West's limited sanctions against Warsaw. Second, there would be Comecon assistance to increase the use of industrial capacity in Poland and ease unemployment there. Finally, long-term plans for completely changing the focus of Poland's trade with the world were discussed in the talks with President Brezhnev and other Soviet leaders.

This last point, the official said, represented "a turning point" indicating that it meant a much deeper relationship with the Eastern block. Meanwhile, the Soviet Union was giving assistance in hard currency to help Poland "through these troubled times". He refused to say, however, whether detailed questions of financing Poland's \$28,000m (£15,000m) debt with the West were discussed. Asked whether the Soviet Union would help to pay off outstanding interest on its 1981 debts to the West, the official would say only: "Poland is going to pay off its debts. The method and dates of this repayment are dependent on outside factors determined by the complicated political and international conditions."

The official, an officer in the Polish Air Force, said Poland's right to settle its own problems without foreign interference and recognized that Poland's borders were just and international law. Although these comments were intended to demonstrate that the United States has no right to interfere in Polish affairs, a long standing complaint since martial law, they also reflected the Soviet willingness to allow Poland time to find its own way out of the crisis without direct intervention.

On the face of it, the final communiqué of the final communiqué to the reform-minded members of the Polish Communist Party. They were hoping that if the Soviet Union gave explicit backing to the "moderate" policies of General Jaruzelski, the chances of pushing through limited changes would be increased.

But the reformists have found two sources of consolation. The first, though it is scant encouragement, is a favourable reference to the ninth emergency party congress last summer. This congress attempted to trim away the extremes of party policy, edging out radical reformers who sympathized with the Solidarity, the free

Muzzle on the press

Journalists resort to oblique attacks

From Our Own Correspondent, Warsaw, March 3

Although critical Polish journalists are being weeded out of the country's newspapers (the process is known as "verification") some reformers and columnists have found ways of slipping through oblique attacks on the martial law authorities.

The latest example comes in a copy of the Gdansk daily, *Dziennik Bałtycki* that has been suspended. One article reviews a pop record by the British singer Amanda Lear, employing exactly the terms used to justify martial law in the political columns. Thus Miss Lear's record is described as an antidote to extremism, a way of bringing the population back to reality and so on.

All good clean fun. But the first letter of each paragraph spells out the words *WRONA Skona*—literally, "the crow will die". But the first four letters are the initials for the Military Council for National Salvation, meaning that the writer's intent is to say the "Military Council shall perish", an unpopular sentiment with the authorities.

Editors on the newspaper say that the writer, a freelance reviewer, claimed that the effect was an accidental one. But no, he was no longer reviewing for *Dziennik Bałtycki*.

The use of the press for political purposes is becoming more and more important as the Government increasingly commits itself to "public consultation" on such matters as price rises and trade union reform. However, the control of newspapers and especially television is such that little critical information can appear.

Mr Janusz Zablocki, head of the Neo-Znak Catholic group, said he will be able to publish in any case. Now a police lorry is parked next to the wall, day and night.



President Mitterrand arriving at Ben-Gurion airport where he was met by President Yitzhak Navon and wheelchair bound Mr. Begin, the prime minister.

Israel hails Mitterrand as true friend

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 3

The unfamiliar tones of the Marseillaise ringing from radio and television sets throughout Israel today heralded a new era in Franco-Israeli relations as Francois Mitterrand became the first French president to pay an official visit since the founding of the state in 1948.

Mitterrand quickly displayed his reluctance to be swayed by Arab and French criticism of his twice-postponed visit. Speaking briefly at the airport, he forcefully expressed the hope that his 48-hour visit would revive the friendship between the French and Israeli people, and render it both durable and irreversible.

His greetings were echoed by President Yitzhak Navon, who was on the airport to welcome him, together with Mr. Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, still confined to a wheelchair by his three-month-old hip injury. Mr. Navon called the French President a "true friend, faithful to his word, faithful to his principles".

For Israeli ministers, gathered uncomfotably in the airport drizzle, the arrival of the French entourage was the fulfilment of hopes initially raised by Mitterrand's election last year. Since then his arrival has been delayed first by Israel's attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor, and then by the annexation of the Golan Heights.

As was made clear at the airport ceremony, Mitterrand is no stranger to Israel. He has made five previous visits either in a private capacity or as leader of Socialist delegations.

"It is perhaps no coincidence," said Francois Mitterrand should be the first head of the French republic to visit Israel. "For, of all recent French presidents he has undoubtedly shown the keenest interest in the history of the Jewish people and the deepest sympathy for the state the Jews have established in their ancestral homeland" the paper said.

Without exception, the Israeli press has reacted enthusiastically to the visit, which is viewed as a welcome respite from the diplomatic isolation suffered by Israel in recent years. Although there is little anticipation of returning to what one commentator dubbed "the golden days" of the early 1960s, there are high hopes for a marked improvement in day-to-day relationships.

Some leading figures from the occupied West Bank have criticized the visit. But four elected Arab mayors will hold talks tomorrow with M. Mitterrand, the French Foreign Minister. They are expected to seek his support for having Mr Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, invited to Jerusalem. No doubt they will also detail their allegations of Israel's "creeping annexation" of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The French visit has proved popular among ordinary Israelis. M Mitterrand

seems a particular favourite with Sephardic Jews, who came here from North Africa.

After today's airport ceremonial, troop review, and 21-gun salute, M Mitterrand and his wife drove to Jerusalem. Israel's French language radio pointed out that he was obliged to cross in and out of the occupied West Bank—as that is how the road has been built—despite his strict determination to keep out of occupied territory during his stay. On Friday, helicopters flying him north to visit a kibbutz and the old crusader port of Acre will make a long detour to avoid flying over the West Bank.

Late this afternoon, the French President began the first in his hectic round of political talks with a meeting at Mr Begin's office. This was followed by an official dinner at the Knesset, where M Mitterrand will tomorrow make the public address which most observers regard as the key-point of his trip.

EEC takes France to court

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 3

The European Commission today decided to take France to the European Court over its plans to introduce a series of national aids for farmers, worth about £364m.

The were announced by the French Government shortly before Christmas.

They included aid for young farmers. About a third of the package announced at the time, involving disaster help for areas hit by bad weather, has been allowed by the Commission.

It was the first package for farmers put together by the Socialist Government and it had a strong emphasis on helping smaller farmers and narrowing the income gap between large and small producers. This was opposed by the main French farming union at the time.

It was also attacked by Mr Peter Walker, the British Agricultural Minister, who told last month's Council meeting that it represented "a ridiculous perversion of the whole trading position of the Community. The aid meant that French farmers were subsidized nationally in a way which led to unfair competition with British farmers."

It was one of the arguments he used in objecting to the 9 per cent farm price increase proposed by the European Commission.

The European Commission last year failed to bring France before the court in time to stop it paying aid worth about £400m. This time the Commission has acted more promptly in an attempt to stop distribution of the money due to begin at the end of this month.

London: Mr Walker said tonight that the Commission's decision to take France to court would be warmly welcomed throughout the Community (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes).

"Since the announcement of this massive injection of national aid was made last December 1, with the support of other ministers, have pressed the Commission to take action."

It was vital in 1982 that the Commission showed that it would be effective in preventing the unfair disruption of competition and trade within the community. "It is imperative that we press for action and not words."

Soviet space advance

Laser gun feared by 1990

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 3

The Pentagon has inadvertently revealed that the Soviet Union will have an orbital space complex capable of launching laser attacks on ground, sea and air targets operational by 1990.

This prediction was first made by Mr Richard Delauer, the Defence Under-Secretary for Research and Engineering, during testimony at a closed-door session of the House Armed Services Committee last week. It was then repeated by Mr Ken Kramer, a member of the House of Representatives, during a public committee hearing soon afterwards where it was recorded by a reporter from the *Army Times*, an unofficial publication dealing with military news.

According to Mr Kramer's statements as published in the journal, Mr Delauer told the committee: "We expect a large, permanent, manned Soviet orbital space complex to be operational around 1990... capable of effectively attacking ground, sea and air targets."

This forecast represents a substantial advance over previous official assessments of Soviet preparations for space warfare. Until now it was widely believed that Soviet efforts were mainly concentrated on developing space-based lasers to attack American satellites rather than ground targets.

There was no immediate comment from the Pentagon on Mr Delauer's reported statement. However, the United States is known to be working on space-based laser and particle-beam weapons as an anti-ballistic missile defence and as satellite killers.

However, only \$218.3m (£110m) less than 1 per cent of the defence budget is earmarked for space defence in the fiscal year 1983. There has been speculation that Mr Delauer's forecast was deliberately leaked to gain support for a bigger space warfare programme.

America and the Soviet Union agreed in 1967 not to use outer space for nuclear or other weapons of mass destruction. But both nations have been working for years on space-based weapons which could be used to destroy nuclear-armed missiles before they reach their target or destroy the other side's communications and detection satellites.

The Soviet Union is understood to have made particularly big strides in this field in recent years.

Brussels: Soviet defence expenditure, increasing at the rate of 4 per cent annually, will reach 15 per cent of the gross domestic product by 1985 (Frederick Bonnard writes).

This is the conclusion of Nato experts who have made a detailed analysis of the

Soviet defence effort which, while it had remained in proportion to the gross domestic product at the beginning of the 1970s, rose to a rate of 12 to 14 per cent by the end of the decade.

Approximately one-fifth of the expenditure was on research, development, trials and evaluation, while over one-third was devoted to procurement and construction of military installations. In 1980, this latter figure amounted to almost one-half of the total expenditure, while only one-third went on operating expenses such as personnel costs, use and maintenance.

Research and development showed the highest rate of increase, closely followed by procurement of new equipment. This, the experts point out, is confirmed by the qualitative improvement of the Soviet defence forces.

Intercontinental rocket forces accounted for more than 10 per cent of the total Soviet military expenditure.

A reduction of military expenditure may appear desirable in the long run, the experts conclude, but they consider it unlikely that any savings would have an appreciable influence on the continued growth before the end of the 1980s. The level of expenditure continues to be very high and allows for ample modernization programmes in the Soviet armed forces.

JAPAN TOLD CHOICE IS CHAOS

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, March 3

Japan must play a greater political role in world affairs and strengthen her ties with the European Community, Mr Leo Tindemans, the President of the European Council of Ministers, said today.

At the same time Mr Tindemans warned Japanese leaders that the world could face a dangerous recession unless the United States, Japan and the EEC worked out a new monetary system which would instil more confidence.

"The alternative is chaos. Unless such a dialogue is established the industrialized nations will find themselves near to economic collapse."

Polls test mood of white reform

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg, March 5

Nearly one million voters in the Transvaal went to the polls today to elect 100 new town and rural councils in what is widely seen here as an unofficial plebiscite on the willingness of South Africa's whites to tolerate further relaxation of apartheid.

The racial issue has been sharpened by the real possibility that the small anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party, which is very much in the minority in the national Parliament in Cape Town, will gain control of Johannesburg, South Africa's biggest city, for the first time.

The PFP already holds 22 of Johannesburg's 47 wards, and needs to capture only two more seats to win

outright majority over the National Party of Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, which rules the city council in alliance with the Independent Ratepayers' Association. The adjoining municipalities of Sandton and Randburg could also fall to the PFP.

At the other end of the white political spectrum—in Johannesburg's townships—no blacks have the vote—the extreme right-wing Heringsburg National Party (reconstituted national Party) (HNP) of Mr Jap Marais, which broke away from the National Party in 1969, has a good chance of winning seats on some councils for the first time. This is a feat it has never achieved at the national level.

The powers of town coun-

cils are fairly limited, and even if the PFP took over Johannesburg it would not be able to change the basic legislation underpinning apartheid, such as the Group Areas Act, which prohibits people of different race from occupying the same residential area.

The councils have a degree of autonomy, however, in determining how public amenities are to be used.

A strong showing by the PFP today could be used by Opposition MPs as evidence that white opinion is ready for the bolder reforms of the apartheid system which the Government, having shed its right wing, is now in theory free to pursue. This argument will lose some of its force, however, if the HNP also does well.

The Reagan wagons defended in Cheyenne

From Michael Hamlyn, Los Angeles, March 3

A child gave President Reagan a cowboy hat in Cheyenne, Wyoming, yesterday and he put it on. It was an appropriate gesture. He had come to the old Western town to lead the defence of the beleaguered wagons of his budget.

Presidents do not often come to Cheyenne. The last to do so was Kennedy in September, 1963, and before that Truman in 1948. So Cheyenne was flattered. Albuquerque, New Mexico, another Western frontier town, was given a flying visit and a presidential budget speech.

The wagon that the President was most concerned to defend was labelled "funds for the defence". He said: "My commitment to cutting taxes and rebuilding our defences is every bit as strong today as it was the day I took office. There will be no retreat in these areas."

He noted that many legislators were attempting (after his Mid-Western challenge to his critics to "put up or shut up") to devise alternate programmes to his own.

But he declared: "This Administration is willing to consider any comprehensive programme as long as it does not compromise the fundamentals of our tax cut programmes."

"The American peoples have been promised tax relief. Last year the Congress passed tax relief, and as long as I have any in the matter no one is going to take it away. Incentive must be returned to those who work, save and invest."

Speaking at a rally in support of Senator Harrison Schmitt of New Mexico, a former astronaut, the President also set himself against cutting back on another fundamental—his defence programme. "We can't afford to compromise on national defence needs."

Mr Reagan warned his Cheyenne audience: "We dare not reduce our defence budget. The bulk of the increase is not going for fancy new planes or elaborate weapons systems. Most of the money is going for basic essentials now in dangerously short supply."

"I don't think Americans want their armed forces equipped with chert gum and balling wire, unable to move for want of spare parts."

The President's budget includes an increase of defence spending of \$34,000m (£18,000m). At the same time he is proposing to maintain tax cuts passed last year which in the next 12 months will amount to \$91,400m. The resulting budget deficit is being seized on by both Republican and Democratic critics of the President, anxious to parade their financial responsibility. He derided particularly the Democrats as "kind of like hearing a sinner in Central Park complain about crime in the streets."

He pointed out to his Wyoming audience: "We don't have a budget deficit because we don't tax enough. We have a budget deficit because we spend too much." He liked the remark so much—he repeated it in Albuquerque. But he was quite firm in asserting: "As much as I detest the idea of deficits, as President I must accept a large deficit if that is what it takes to buy peace for the rest of the century."

The President's stunning success last year in forcing his budget through a sometimes reluctant Congress was in no small part due to the strength of his appeal over the heads of the legislature to the American people. Yesterday's speeches marked a similar attempt to claim the support of the West's outdoors, self-reliant part of the country where he himself feels most at home.

He derided the "hand wringers" who paralysed Washington. "You don't have to spend much time in Washington to appreciate the prophetic vision of the man who designed the streets," he said "they go round in circles."

"I have a message for the pessimists of the Potomac. The rest of the country still believes in America and in tomorrow."

Handwritten text in Arabic script: "سنة ١٤٠٢ هـ"

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Assault on jail sets 230 free

Lima. — Terrorists freed 230 inmates from a prison in the southern city of Ayacucho in a bloody attack in which 10 people were killed and several injured, the Peruvian Government said.

General José Gagliardi, the Interior Minister, said the dead included three policemen and seven of the attackers. He added that dynamite and machine guns were used in the main assault and in a series of diversionary attacks on three police stations and a hospital.

A state of emergency was declared in Ayacucho, an Andean city of 100,000 inhabitants and 210 police reinforcements were sent from Lima.

Turkish line on Cyprus backed

Ankara. — In the first official Turkish comment on the recent visit to Cyprus by Mr Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, Mr Turgut Ersoy, the Foreign Minister, insisted that intercommunal talks between the two Cypriot communities — and not internationalization — represented the only viable means of reaching a settlement.

Mr Robert Strausz-Hupé, the American Ambassador, told a press conference that he backed that view and that Washington's attitude had not changed.

Referee flees field twice

Valdebebaso, Spain. — A referee ran a mile to a Civil Guards barracks to seek protection from angry football fans after ordering the local goalkeeper off the field in this southern Spanish town.

When the game resumed later, he gave a penalty against the visiting team, Cabezuela, and again had to run off the field as their fans turned on him. The match was abandoned.

Strike stops papers

Amsterdam. — Some 40 Dutch newspapers failed to appear because of a strike by printers over the Government's plans to cut sickness benefits. Only two provincial papers appeared.

Bonn faces its third scandal in one month

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, March 3

West Germany today faced its third scandal in a month as the federal prosecutor opened treason investigations against Bavaria's top security chief for allegedly divulging dubious activities by the West German intelligence service.

Herr Hans Langemann, aged 57, is suspected of revealing state secrets to the left-wing monthly *Konkret*. He is alleged to have divulged among other things, that BND the country's intelligence service, had placed an agent close to the then President Nixon in 1969 to influence him in favour of West Germany.

He was also quoted as saying that the BND had placed another agent close to Cardinal Franz König, the Archbishop of Vienna, and one of the Catholic Church's leading authorities on Eastern Europe. The agent's sources of information about Eastern Europe.

Top officials of the BND — the report claims — persuaded the Central Intelligence Agency in Washington to take inaccessible to the public captured Nazi-era documents in American archives linking a former Federal Chancellor Herr Georg Kiesinger, with the Nazi regime.

Konkret based its report on what it claimed were eight hours of tape-recorded reminiscences by Herr Langemann about his years as a BND agent and spy-master between 1957 and 1970. It also claims to have spoken to Herr Langemann himself and checked the mass of corroborating documents, many marked secret or top secret, which it published along with the article.

Herr Langemann, *Konkret* claimed, had written a manuscript about his experiences in the BND.

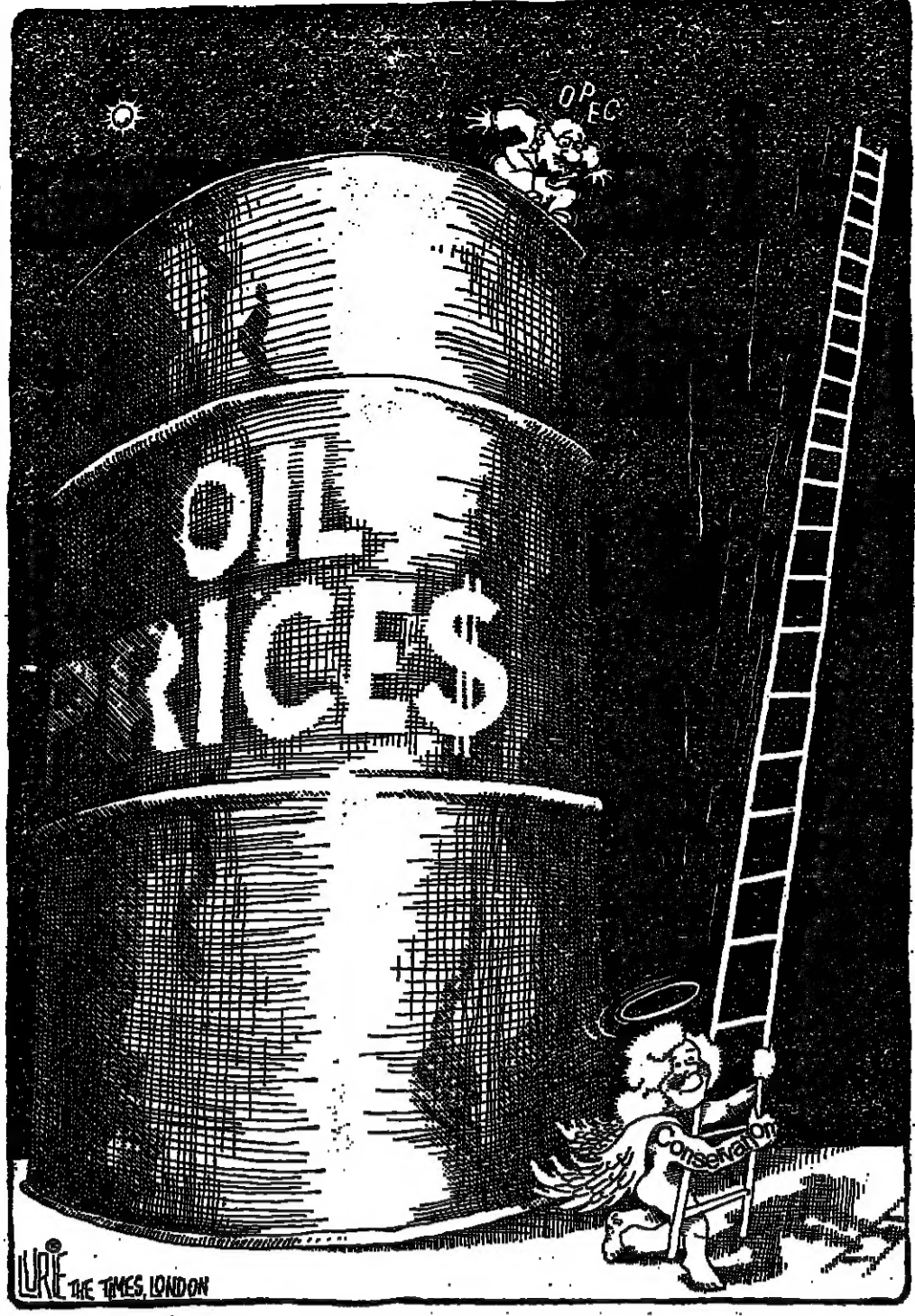
Herr Langemann, *Konkret* claimed, had written a manuscript about his experiences in the BND.

The secret report which *Der Spiegel* published on the poor state of the Bundeswehr provoked Herr Strauss to have the magazine's offices searched and its publisher arrested for suspected treason.

Officials of the BND, the monthly alleged, Herr Langemann was quoted as saying that he personally filmed documents which proved this from the seized *Der Spiegel* files under the eyes of the investigating prosecutor.

About the agent close to Mr Nixon, Herr Langemann is quoted as saying: "We didn't want any information from him... We wanted — that was the point of the operation — to let Nixon have German views from a close friend with whom he also financially involved."

Frans-Josef Strauss: Fresh light on "Spiegel affair".



Britain parries Argentine sabre

By David Cross

The British Government yesterday expressed deep concern about the latest sabre rattling statements from Argentina on the future of the Falkland Islands.

Answering questions in the House of Commons, Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said that the statements, which were made after a meeting between British and Argentine officials in New York last weekend, had not been helpful towards a resolution of the long-standing dispute over the sovereignty of the British colony.

The Falkland Islands, which lie 300 miles off the Argentine coast in the south Atlantic, have been British since 1833 when British troops landed and expelled the Argentine governor.

Mr Luce reiterated successive British Governments' policy over the islands, namely that they will not be handed over to Argentina without the express approval of the Falkland Islanders and the British Parliament.

Arrigo Levi: A Personal View

Atlantic Alliance in need of a policy

The state of the Atlantic Alliance is unsatisfactory, although the member governments have managed so far to adjust and combine their different perceptions of the world situation after Poland's entry.

Compromises between the divergent policies suggested by various governments (on economic and financial links with Eastern Europe, on tactics at the Madrid conference, on the conduct of military negotiations with the Soviet Union) have been produced with some difficulty, thanks to a deliberate effort to maintain a united front at a time of uncertainty and danger. But the, so far, successful efforts of many worthy diplomats and political leaders have not wiped out a widespread fear that, when the time comes for hard decisions, the alliance may split wide open.

This may seem strange and even paradoxical, if one considers that the basic values of Western civilization, as well as the guiding principles and *raison d'être* of the alliance, have never seemed to be so necessary and valuable as they are at the present time.

Military repression in Poland, coming after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, at a time when the military balance of power endangered by heavy Soviet rearmament, ought to increase the importance of the Atlantic Alliance for all democratic nations.

The tensions which keep growing inside the Soviet block, and the fact that the Soviet leaders seem able to react to these tensions only by using force, is a clear threat to us all.

But while there is no fundamental disagreement in the West on principles and values, there are deeply diverging views on matters of policy. Would a firm Western warning and clear indication that we are ready to go back to a cold-war relationship if need be, help Polish dissidents and remaining reformers more than a weak continuation of détente and cooperation?

Which policy — looking further ahead — would better help the rise of a new Khrushchev in the Kremlin, after the coming end of the Brezhnev era? One that emphasizes the costs of a continuation of the present Soviet aggressive and repressive policies? Or one

that makes it easier for the future Soviet leaders to solve their domestic economic difficulties thanks to Western cooperation?

Discussion of these policy alternatives is still in its initial stages at government level, while it has already produced a flood of word by political experts in the American and European press. Opinions vary as much as they possibly could.

But we do not only face a problem of defining long-term Atlantic policy: agreement on day-to-day tactics may be even more difficult to achieve. Since everybody genuinely agrees that a split in the alliance would be a disaster at all costs, a common statement on principles may be put together in time for President Reagan's visit to Europe next June.

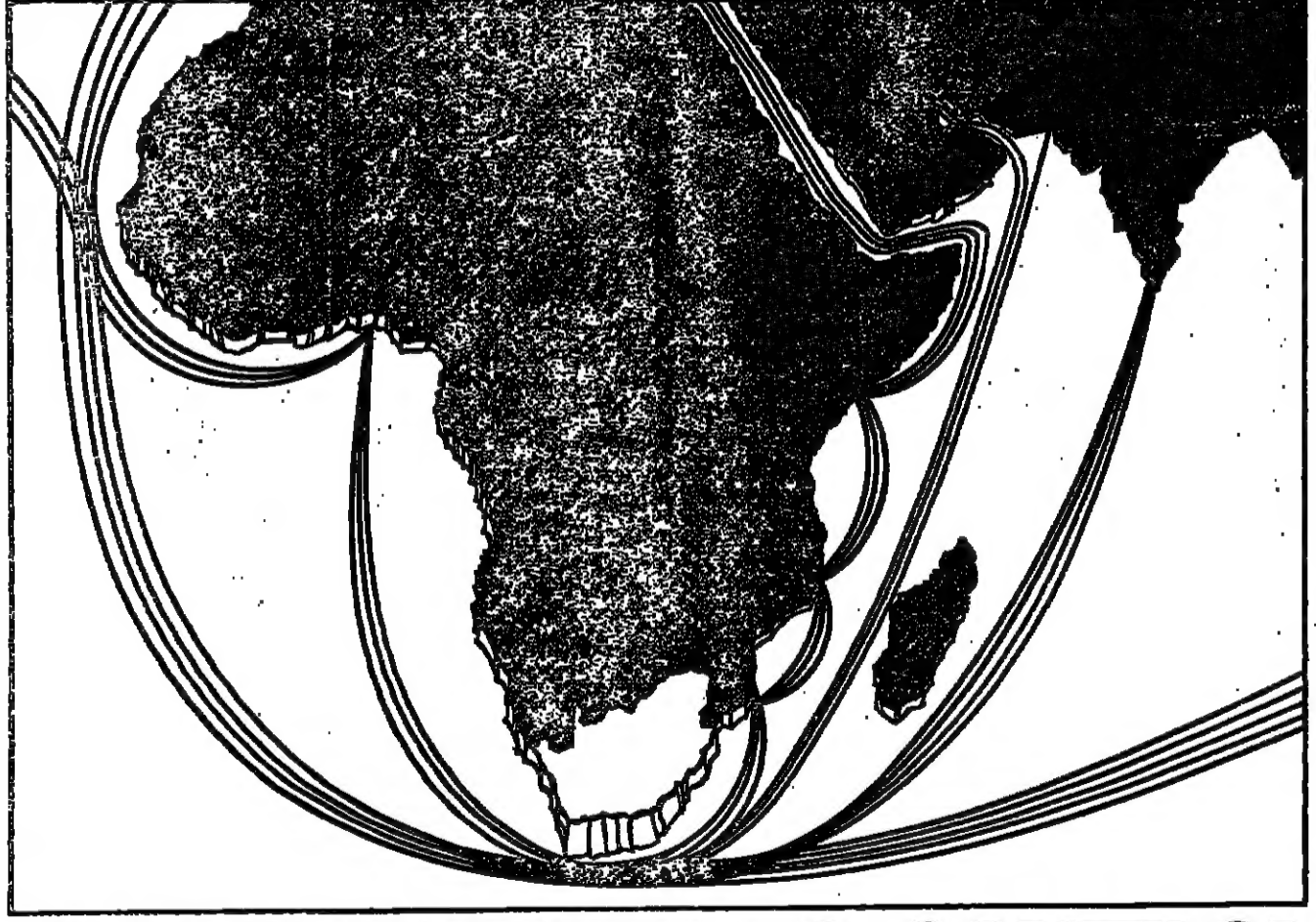
But even if the Paris summit of the Seven and the Atlantic meeting which follows in Bonn produce the clearest of all possible documents (and one can doubt that they will), such documents will not provide all the answers to the practical problems which will later arise. We are facing a changing situation, and one loaded with dangers, which will demand a continuous adaptation of tactics.

The general raising of tempers, due to the most unfortunate coincidence of a crisis in Central America which deeply splits the alliance, and the American public opinion; but it is really a coincidence? It will put all transatlantic institutions under great stress.

No wonder that attention is again being given to the problem of strengthening these institutions. A "Euro-Atlantic Act of Friendship" has now been suggested by Signor Emilio Colombo, the Italian Foreign Minister, in a speech in Washington.

This "Euro-Atlantic Act" (a counterpart to the "European act" proposed by Signor Colombo and Herr Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister) should deal not only with principles and good intentions: it should also provide for periodic meetings between the foreign ministers of the Atlantic alliance and become an extension to America of Europe's political cooperation.

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IF YOU WANTED TO CONTROL THE WEST'S SUPPLY LINES, WHERE WOULD YOU HAVE TO WIN CONTROL FIRST?

You don't need a diploma in military strategy to put two-and-two together. Each month about 2,300 ships pass South Africa's coast, most en route for the West.

They carry 80% of NATO countries' oil supplies and 70% of their strategic minerals.

Indeed, the Republic of South Africa itself is the only stable country outside the Communist Bloc with large reserves of chrome, platinum, manganese and vanadium.

Without reliable supplies the West could not manufacture computers, machine tools, aero engines, gearboxes, TVs, drilling bits and defensive armaments.

No wonder South Africa has been called the 'Persian Gulf of strategic minerals'. So you can see how the stability of the West and the stability of South Africa are linked.

Yet the mandatory arms embargo placed on the Republic by the U.N. means South Africa is unable to patrol the strategically important sea lanes around the Cape. On the other hand, the build up of the Soviet naval presence in the Indian Ocean is not hindered by such embargoes.

South Africa

Further information can be obtained from The Director of Information, South African Embassy, South Africa House, London WC2N 6DP.

Getty funds will go to museum

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, March 3

After being tied up in litigation for almost six years the J. Paul Getty bequest to his Californian museum in Malibu is being turned over to the seaside institution. The bequest will probably make it the richest museum in the world.

When the oil tycoon died in June, 1976, he left four million shares of Getty Oil Company stock, worth at the time \$700m (about £3.6m). The money he had built in southern California, but had never visited, although he is buried in the grounds.

After long delays because of lawsuits and tax disputes the funds now are worth in excess of \$1,000m because of a four to one stock split and two stock sales and the current high interest rates.

The transfer of funds, however, began this week and will continue for the next few days. Under the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, Mr J. Patrick Whaley, the museum attorney, said the museum would be required to distribute 4.5 per cent of its endowment three out of every four years. It is, therefore, expected to spend nearly \$50m a year.

Last year the museum spent only \$4.5m, so the increased revenue is enormous. New York's much larger Metropolitan Museum of Art has a budget of \$27m.

This week's visit — concerned with elephant preservation — to Sri Lanka by the Duke of Edinburgh, the president of the World Wildlife Fund, makes a thorough contrast to royal visits of yesteryear when elephant hunts were the first item on the programme of visiting British royalty.

William Howard Russell, remembered for his dispatches on the Indian Mutiny and the Crimean War, accompanied the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII) on a visit to Ceylon in 1877 and gave readers of *The Times* a bullet by bullet description of how the Prince shot an elephant and "according to custom, cut off the tail. As soon as his back was turned, the Cingalese (sic) took pieces from the day," ears as trophies of the day.

Elephants from Ceylon were used by Hannibal in his campaign in the Alps, and exports continued until the last century. British sportsmen and officials shot elephants like stray dogs. Major William Rogers killed 1,400; Sir Samuel Baker bagged around 1,000, and Major Thomas Skinner's score was 600.

Today, the Asian elephant faces extinction. There are only between 2,500 to 3,000 left in Sri Lanka and between 20,000 to 30,000 in the whole of Asia.

The greatest danger to the survival of elephants is from slaughter for the manufacture of curries for sale to tourists.

Mr Lyn de Alwis, the director of Wild Life Conservation, has shown the Duke 50 ivory bangles and two carved ivory elephants which are all that now remains of a magnificent tusker killed by poachers who had sold the tusks for 150,000 rupees (about £4,000).

Bulgaria purges officials for embezzlement

From Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade, March 3

High-ranking members of the Bulgarian Central Committee have been dismissed in an embezzlement scandal connected with lavish festivities last year for the country's thirteen hundredth anniversary.

Among them is Mr Zhivko Popov, the former Ambassador in France and until his ambassadorial appointment the second man in the Foreign Ministry. He has also been expelled from the Communist Party, indicating that his offence was particularly grave.

Mr Popov had owed his spectacular rise to power to Ljudmila Zhivkova, President Zhivkov's daughter, who died last July after organizing the spectacular anniversary celebrations. Her death obviously precipitated the fall from grace of her protégés and raised questions about the vast sums she had spent on the festival.

The anniversary, which was celebrated all over Europe, culminated last October with a jubilee in Sofia attended by 4,000 dignitaries. About 50 jubilee committees were set up abroad to popularize Bulgaria, past and present.

A fund was opened for assembling papers and objects of historical value. Private persons and state organizations were asked to give financial support and vast sums were being spent on expensive publications which were distributed freely throughout the world. Mrs Zhivkova chaired the operation and was the initiator and the spirit behind the worldwide publicity campaign. But since her death there have been reports of embezzlement and misuse of the funds and inquiries into festivities abroad organized by Bulgarian embassies.

Another Central Committee member, Mr Mirco Spasov, who lost his post, is also believed to have been connected with the scandal. However, the Politburo member, Mr Peko Takov, was said to have been relieved of his post at his own request for reasons of ill health.

Economic reform: Compared with neighbouring Romania or trouble-ridden Poland, Bulgaria has been doing well economically but it has obviously reached the point where economic reforms have become imperative. Since the beginning of this year reforms have started in earnest to achieve greater efficiency through incentives and rational use of resources.

The most important change is to link wages and salaries to performance — the first recognition of the profit motive on the lines which Hungary has been practising successfully for more than a decade.

From now on, Bulgarian enterprises will be able to obtain funds only when they have marketed their output. Hitherto they were often producing unsaleable goods fit only for the storehouses.

French fuel price cut likely today

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, March 3

For the first time in 17 years, the price of petrol in France will probably be reduced tomorrow, by at least five centimes (about 1/2p) a litre.

The decision, which everyone expected the Cabinet to take yesterday, has been left to the government committee on prices so as not to give it too obvious a political flavour. But the proximity of the local elections on March 14, the first national test of the Government's popularity, will obviously be a main consideration.

This is confirmed by the fact that a new system of calculating the price of energy, to bring it more into line with fluctuations in the world oil market, is still under negotiation between the government and oil importers.

Previously, the price of oil products was fixed on the basis of a number of factors, including the dollar exchange rate. This system was suspended last summer. If it had not been, petrol prices calculated on a dollar exchange rate of 5.46 francs should have been raised by 20 centimes a litre when the dollar is worth more than 6 francs.

The loss to the oil industry, which suffers from surplus refining capacity and rising costs, will be practically cancelled by an increase in the price of diesel oil and gas, which is hardly likely to be popular with farmers and road hauliers.

The Government also has economic reasons for its decision. In France petrol costs some 50 francs more a ton than the European average, while the price of diesel and fuel oil is about 50 francs lower. The Government can also argue that the fall in world prices should have repercussions on the price of petrol.

Against this is the argument that the price cut could have waited a few weeks until the new system of calculating prices had been agreed with refiners, as some ministers argued; and that cutting petrol prices is an encouragement to use cars rather than public transport and therefore hardly consistent with the energy-saving policy.

But the Frenchman and his sacrosanct car, for which he is ready to sacrifice other items of his budget, like food, has won against all economic argument, the more so as the petrol price cut will compensate the adverse psychological effects of other increases.

These include rises in gas and electricity rates.

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Reagan told to insist on Salvador talks

From Moshin Ali, Washington, March 3

The House of Representatives is overwhelmingly approving a non-binding resolution urging President Reagan to press for "unconditional discussions" among the main political factions in El Salvador. The House vote yesterday was 396 in favour and 10 against.

The resolution said that the discussions were necessary in order to guarantee a safe and stable environment for the free and open democratic elections.

Meanwhile, Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, yesterday in testimony to the House Foreign Affairs Committee declared that there was no reliable evidence that the guerrillas in El Salvador were under external control.

He did not give details of the evidence but said it had been presented to congressional intelligence committees within the past week.

Answering questions, Mr Haig said: "The operations of guerrilla forces inside El Salvador are controlled from external command and control."

The Reagan Administration has previously said that Caribbean countries were confronted by a growing threat from Cuba and its new-found ally Nicaragua into El Salvador was again spreading high levels.

But Mr Haig's statement yesterday was one of the strongest official allegations yet that the insurgency

against the American-backed Government of President Duarte "is not controlled by Salvadorans."

Mr Haig, however, assured the committee that no plans to introduce American combat troops were being considered even if the March 28 elections for an assembly in El Salvador had "the worst outcome."

On the question of negotiations, Mr Haig had told the committee: "We must not be misled by the myth that the Duarte Government has refused to negotiate an end to the trouble in El Salvador with the Guerrillas."

Mr Haig added: "President Duarte has offered to negotiate on the electoral process, so that elections can proceed peacefully and the people of El Salvador can choose their own leaders without fear. The United States supports this call."

He noted that the Council of Bishops of El Salvador supported the electoral process, too, and had echoed the Government's call for all groups to desist from using violence to block the elections. The guerrillas have repeatedly refused to take part in the elections.

Mr Haig also said he expected increased guerrilla activities between now and the March 28 elections as part of a campaign to disrupt that process.

Leading article, page 13

From Paul Ellman, San Francisco, California, El Salvador, March 3

When Mr Deane Hinton, the United States Ambassador to El Salvador, visited this beleaguered provincial capital recently, he was confronted by a weeping British nun who begged him to intervene to halt the slaughter of local civilians by the security forces.

Mr Hinton, who has attracted criticism from opponents of United States policy in El Salvador, has publicly stated that he believes that the human rights situation in the country is improving. He advised President Reagan last month to certify that this was the case, as demanded by Congress as a condition for continuing aid.

However, the nun's account of her meeting with the envoy suggests that Mr Hinton in private is pessimistic about a real improvement in the behaviour of the Salvadoran security forces towards civilians.

"I think we made it abundantly clear that there's been no progress around here," said Sister Anselm, a Swansea-born member of the Order of the Sisters of St Clare, who has worked in El Salvador for almost 10 years.

She requested a meeting with Mr Hinton after discovering the bodies of three women parishioners who had been detained by the National Guard after attending Ash Wednesday Mass.

Mr Hinton had come to San Francisco Gotera, the

Weeping nun tells of mutilations in the field



Class favourite: President Duarte with schoolchildren in La Libertad during the campaign.

capital of Marazán province, for talks with local military commanders on the situation in this region, which had seen some of the most bitter fighting of the war.

Sister Anselm asked to see the ambassador on her return from the town of Cacaopera, nine miles north of here, where the three women's bodies were found in a field. Two of them were the wife and sister of a catechist, Señor Andres Perez. To attend Mass they walked 10 miles along moun-

tain trails from their home in a village deep inside territory controlled by guerrillas of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front.

Señor Perez managed to escape from the National Guard outpost and, dressed only in his underwear, made his way back to his three children. "The body of his wife had been hideously mutilated. I knelt down by it to say a prayer but I just burst into tears," Sister Anselm said.

She said that she and the other two nuns from the convent — Sister Jean, from Port Talbot, Wales, and Sister Phyllis, from Florida — had been invited, with three Irish Franciscan priests, to meet Mr Hinton, but had declined originally because they did not want to be associated with what they regarded as a public relations exercise.

"But, I decided, in view of what happened, that it would be better to talk with the ambassador and ask him if

the United States couldn't do something. It really was a concrete example to present to him of something that goes on all the time here," Sister Anselm said. Accompanied by Sister Phyllis, she spent five minutes with Mr Hinton in a small room in the convent. "Mr Hinton said this was the sort of thing he was hearing all the time but that it was difficult for him. He reminded us that it had taken a year before the alleged killers of four American nuns were charged.

"He told us he was putting pressure on the Salvadoran military all the time, but that these people think differently," the nun said, adding that she had wept throughout the interview.

Asked to comment on this account of the meeting and the ambassador's apparently pessimistic assessment of prospects for ending excesses against the civilian population, a spokesman for the United States embassy in San Salvador said that the ambassador regarded the meeting as private.

Mr Hinton was appointed ambassador to El Salvador by President Reagan last year after the dismissal of his predecessor, Mr Robert White.

San Salvador: The ruling junta has launched a campaign to persuade people that parliamentary elections this month could help to end the war (Reuters reports).

President Duarte last night dismissed left-wing opposition charges that the present state of siege and continuing violence meant that fair elections for a constituent assembly could not be held as scheduled on March 28.

Go-between role denied by general

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, March 3

Lieutenant-General Peter Walls, the former Zimbabwe Army Commander, today flatly denied through his lawyers here that he had arranged meetings between representatives of the South African Government and Mr Joshua Nkomo, the former coalition partner.

The statement comes after recent allegations in Salisbury that General Walls had arranged meetings while Mr Nkomo was allegedly plotting a coup to overthrow Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister.

The former commander said that he had only met Mr Nkomo in connection with the integration of his guerrilla supporters in the Army. He added: "These were at the instance of Mr Mugabe in his capacity of Minister of Defence", to whom he had reported back.

In the past fortnight, Mr Mugabe and a senior minister have claimed that General Walls had organised two meetings between Mr Nkomo and South African military men who had dismissed his appeals for help from Pretoria in staging a coup. The minister also claimed that the general was recruiting saboteurs in South Africa for activities here.

General Walls has lived in South Africa since being barred from Zimbabwe after admitting in an interview that he had considered leading a coup to oust Mr Mugabe.

In his statement he denied planning or taking part in any activities detrimental to the Government of Zimbabwe

Carrington speaks for five nations

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi, March 3

The Western contact group is working to overcome what it regards as a misunderstanding of its proposals for a Namibian constitution, Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, said here today at the end of his African tour.

Addressing a press conference after meeting President Moi, the current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, he said the five-nation contact group was doing its best to make sure that its proposals — including a double-vote system — were properly understood.

He felt the proposals, which resemble the present West German electoral system, had been wrongly criticised as over complicated. A paper was now being prepared to answer the objections of African states.

Besides being entertained to lunch today by President Moi, Lord Carrington attended a ceremony at which the Kenyan President opened new premises for the British Council here. The Queen sent a message of good wishes on an occasion which, she said, symbolized the warm and friendly relationship between Britain and Kenya.

Earlier, Lord Carrington had signed an exchange of letters with Mr Arthur Magugu, the Kenyan Finance Minister, for the supply of 5,000 tons of wheat under the British food aid programme. It will be sold on the Kenyan market and the proceeds will be used to finance agreed development projects.

Soaring crime is blamed on American affluence

From Christopher Thomas, New York, March 3

Every city in the United States has experienced a surge in crime in the past 30 years, according to a study conducted for the Department of Justice.

It points to a surprising similarity in the rate of increase in cities that are different in location, size and minority population, and plays down the role of race and poverty in crime rates.

The North-Western University's Centre for Urban Affairs and Policy Research near Chicago spent three and a half years studying crime trends between 1948 and 1978 in every city with a population of more than 50,000, a total of 386 cities.

Dr Herbert Jacob and Dr Robert Lineberry wrote: "The growth of crime appears to be the result of fundamental changes in the lifestyles of Americans. It is the result of greater affluence which made more valuable goods available for theft, a condition aggravated by the greater propensity of Americans to leave goods unguarded in empty homes and expose themselves to dangerous

situations in travelling around their cities."

They added that it was also the consequence of the existence of a larger pool of potential offenders for reasons not well understood by criminologists. They concluded that crime had surged everywhere in the United States regardless of local efforts to stem the tide. "Whether local officials engaged in Herculean efforts or none at all, the crime wave affected their community", they said.

The report said that cities bearing no resemblance to each other had a remarkably similar rise in crime. "Both the Newark and the Housatons of the United States experienced substantial rises in their reported crime rates."

Ten cities were studied in depth. Newark, New Jersey, which has a declining population, suffered the most with a sevenfold rise in property crime and an elevenfold increase in violent crime. Property crime doubled and violent crime quadrupled in the thriving cities of San Jose and Phoenix.

Savak torture 'revived'

From Our Correspondent, Geneva, March 3

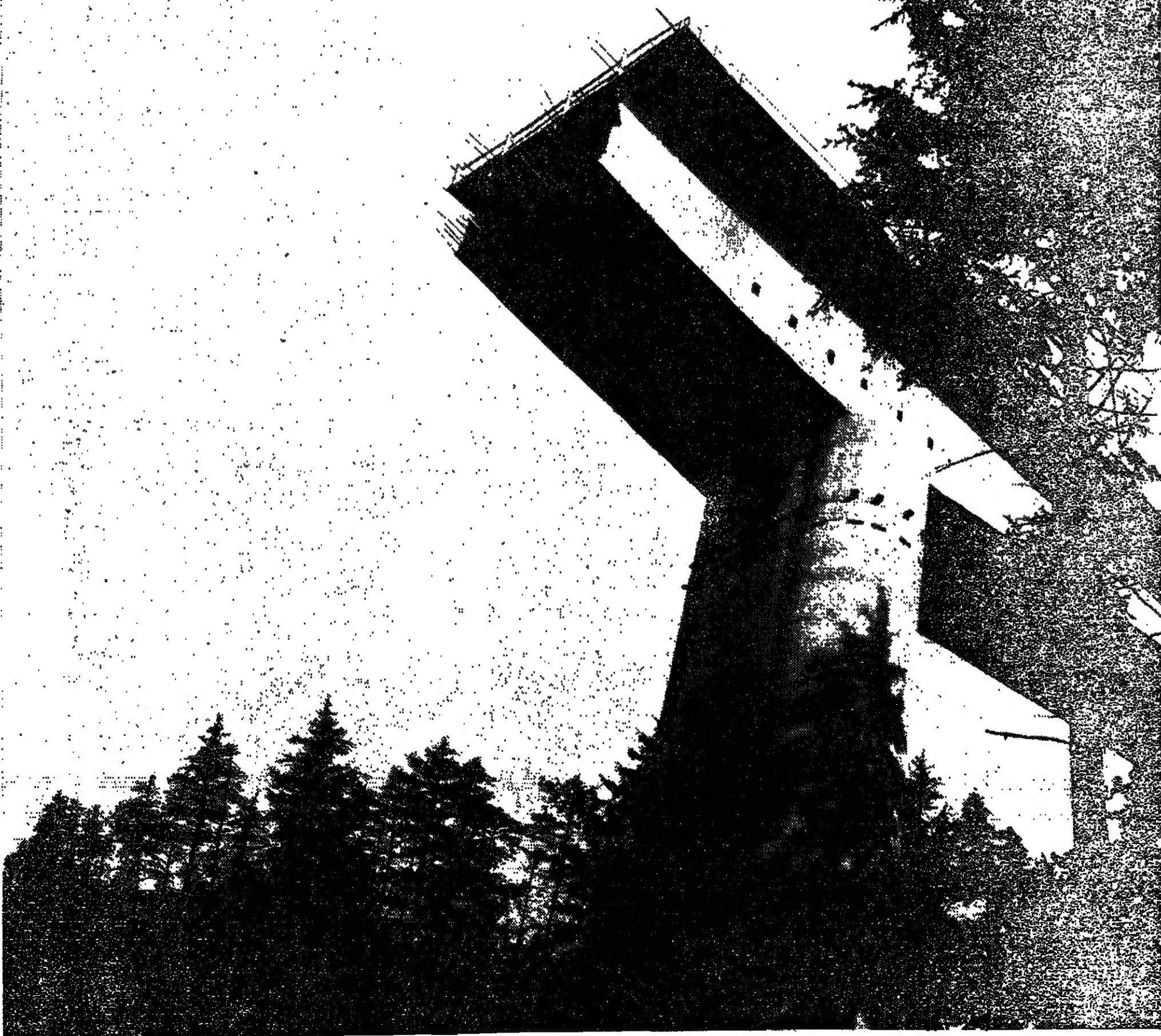
Tortures developed by Savak, the Iranian secret police of the Shah's regime, are being used on detainees in Evin prison, Tehran, according to a report submitted today to the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

"Three years ago ... no one expected the old Savak apparatus would be revived so soon or that the Pahlavi dungeons would become Isla-

mic torture chambers", the report said. It was prepared by the International Solidarity Front for Defence of the Iranian People's Democratic Rights.

"The number of Iranians killed by the Khomeini regime in the second half of last year was much higher than last year's figure of 2,596", the report said. An investigation of rights violations was called for.

What happens to your overseas contract if the money runs out?



In many overseas markets public and private capital expenditure is being cut back.

And where the axe falls on a project such as a highway or an airport, it could easily mean financial hardship for several companies along the line. Including some of our exporters.

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Today, the Export Credits Guarantee Department is paying out more and more on bad debts, not only from politically shaky countries, but from traditionally stable ones as well.

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But the customer fell victim to circumstance since the orders for the plant he had received were suddenly cancelled. This meant that he in turn had to let down his own suppliers when payment fell due.

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PILING DEMONSTRATION

THE BARBICAN OPENS: John Russell Taylor views the first exhibition

Human survivors

Affirmation: France 1945-54

Art Gallery

A comparison between last year's Barbican exhibition *Paris-Paris* and its offshoot *Affirmation*, the opening exhibition at the brand-new Barbican Centre gallery (until June 13), is very illuminating of what was in Paris and what goes, or is going to go, in London. For, as was to be brought over the Paris show, what finally emerges is a new and very different show, with a handful of pieces in common. The Paris show, though allegedly covering the period 1937-57, was mainly concerned with the postwar scene, and in that with the central role of Paris and its progression towards its last moment of glory, with the abstract art of De Staël, Georges Mathieu and others, and before the crown of world leadership in art was snatched by New York. Now all those abstract artists, though still names in France (and gradually emerging from the shadowy side of fashion everywhere), would mean little in Britain today — not to mention the British bias against the non-figurative. So instead the organizers of *Affirmation*, Germain Viatte and Sarah Wilson (one French, one British, you note), have turned away from the Ecole de Paris, and in general from the abstract, to concentrate instead on the survivors and the outsiders, most of whom were concerned one way and another with the great humanist, or at least human, themes.

Hence De Staël is represented by just one painting, a semi-abstract

called *La Vie dure* (which one suspects is there more for its title than anything else). Other abstractionists are quite absent, or dragged in somehow through connections with surrealism or some real or fancied use of the abstract as a sort of psychodrama in which human anguish, agony and horror (nothing there) are represented by abstractions because too painful to approach directly through representations. The argument is, well, arguable, but it does not prevent the show itself from being thoroughly exciting and thought-provoking. We are taken carefully through from the generally unregarded French realists of the Thirties, people like André Fongeron and Francis Gruber, and ponder what they were doing after the war. We are reminded that several great masters who never deserted representation completely — Picasso, Matisse, Braque, Léger, even Bonnard — were still active. And so to the real centre of this show: the Art Brut movement, with its deliberate harking back to primitive art, child-art and psychotic art, in an attempt to find and define 'new images of Man'.

Dubuffet naturally figures prominently here, and it must be said that, represented by a few of his works (that may be the key, for in large numbers they become very monotonous), cunningly placed in context like this, he has seldom looked better. Some strange anticipations are also traced up to earth-realist painting by Zoltan Kemeny from as early as 1947, some astonishing paintings done by Stuart Gilbert in Dublin in the early Forties, which seem to relate to nothing anywhere around. And the



Léger's 'Les Loisirs': a master still then active

sense of a group of disparate artists all for the moment going the same way is strongly created.

The exhibition certainly does not show, or even claim to show, the one central way of approaching art in the postwar decade, in Paris or anywhere else. Rather, it proposes a group of surprisingly accessible artists and attitudes to us for our consideration and, with any luck, enjoyment. The exercise is persuasive: the unfamiliar are related tellingly to the familiar — as usual, Picasso is the inclusive figure in whom clues to everything else can somehow be found — and great isolated figures like Balthus can at

last be seen to have a context (the not least in the work of his writer-brother Pierre Klossowski). Mathieu's calligraphic action-painting is included with a couple of his more bearable early works, and even, at the other end of the spectrum, the dread Bernard Buffet, though mercifully not with smudged blue clowns. The gallery itself turns out, despite what must have been feared from published plans and projections, a rather pleasant, manageable space on two floors. This, it appears, is largely by dint of covering almost entirely the architect's original concept.

Another Country

Queen's

Do not be misled by Julian Mitchell's title, as this brilliant written study of the English public school life in the 1930s relates directly to the old moles who are still coming up out of the English soil.

Another Country is about the self-governing hierarchy from prefects to fags which famously marks its survivors for life. It has much in common with the Army system of binding out crude disciplinarian duties to the Other Ranks; but Mr Mitchell concentrates with single-minded venom on the closed institution of his choice, leaving it to the spectator to make the connexion with other British authoritarian structures. With the exception of a Walter Pater-quoting uncle (illustrating what the system has done to the previous generation), the cast consists entirely of the boys. They represent every class of response from total militaristic acceptance of the rules to structured political defiance. Plenty of room, you might think, for any kind of boy to make his own terms with silly old placed were it not for the fact that the first event in the play is the suicide of a boy due to be expelled for homosexuality.

This calamity is quite enough to generate a plot

Venom on the institution

Theatre

whose main business is to explore the frustrations, desires and hatreds of a miscellaneous collection of people who are receiving their basic training in the art of personal concealment. The instant effect of the death is to provoke a purge in the house in which the Head Prefect (a gentlemanly liberal) cracks, leaving the way open for the appalling Fowler (played by Michael Parkhouse as a baby-faced Mussolini) to succeed him: a move that is finally frustrated also at the expense of the two characters you most want to assume control.

These are Bennett and Judd, who embody the two dominant forms of rebellion against the public school ethic. Bennett is a serious, unassuming homosexual, at first seen training binoculars on his beloved through the library window. Judd is an inflammable Marxist, driven mad by the incessant interruptions that prevent him from getting on with his chosen line of research. Very cunningly, Mr Mitchell introduces both of them as mere boys. Bennett, hair flapping over his eyes as he moans over his unattainable partner, seems merely to be going through a phase. Judd, shooting off about self-perpetuating oligarchies and playing the barrack-room lawyer to the officious Fowler, is really in the grip of adolescent biology.

As the play develops and the spectator becomes a

Interview: Roy Hudd

The image of Bud Flanagan

Roy Hudd's conversation is a riot of jokes, references to jokes and evangelistic fervour about the comedy tradition. He thrusts his face into yours, the better to convince you of the fabulous riches of music hall and of course to try out the occasional new gag.

He has millions of gags, but his favourites are all timeless yet topical, anarchic yet relying on a common cultural fund. They tend to prove his credo — that comedy never changes, that there is nothing new behind the footlights, and that never will be. Monkey, Python and the Goons are the descendants of Dan Leno and Grimaldi, while Hudd himself inherits the mien of Max Miller and Bud Flanagan.

So it is only appropriate that from tonight he plays the latter at the Prince of Wales in *Underneath the Arches*, a biography of the team of Flanagan and Chesney Allen. The show was written for the Chichester Festival by Patrick Garland and Brian Glavin, though it was Hudd himself who came up with the idea of using the original sketches to bear the narrative. And, mysteriously, it was Flanagan who first cast Hudd.

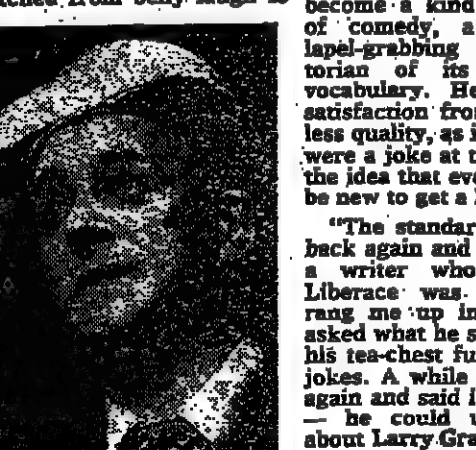
"I really have no idea why. I only met him casually two or three times. Really I knew his music better — but don't tell Bud — and I was asked to hear some time after he had died and she told me he had hoped one day I would play him." Perhaps Flanagan had detected within Hudd the obsessive fascination with variety and music hall which had been imprinted by early childhood trips to the theatre with his grandmother.

"My earliest memories are of a man in a great big floral

suit — Max Miller — then a man in a fur coat and a boater — that was Bud — and then a panto at Croydon where the backcloth showed the road leading up to the castle. I could never understand why characters leaving the stage to go to the castle didn't actually go up that road."

Those images have inspired Hudd to become an expert on variety and music hall. The names, the gags and the songs pepper his conversation on almost any subject. But it is not scholarship; it is merely a celebratory identification with the way his general somnambule survived in the business. "People are always getting down about comedy. But it's simple for me. If it gets a laugh it's in, if it doesn't it's out, however funny I think it is."

In the case of Flanagan the trick which lifted mere survival to real success was the rapid change of mood. In a sentence the audience's required response — was switched from belly laugh to



Hudd as Flanagan

Concerts

Symphony living in the past

RLPO/Janowski

Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool

Gone are the days when a conductor spent two years in the post, gradually bringing it to supreme virtuosity (much more than precision and agility) and teaching it to play the established repertoire in a completely idiosyncratic way, not to be heard elsewhere, because he conducted nowhere else, nor did they play for another conductor. Karajan and the Berlin Philharmonic approach more closely than others to this old ideal; elsewhere the 'house style' is out of favour, and orchestras are lucky if their many guest conductors are half as illuminating in rehearsal and concert as the peripatetic similar chief.

On Tuesday the Royal

Concerts

Symphony living in the past

Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool

Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra announced the appointment of Marek Janowski as their principal conductor and artistic adviser from September 1983, in succession to David Atherton who only assumed that role two years ago. It is not long enough for Atherton to make his presence beneficially felt, nor will Janowski spend enough time to impose his musical style on the RLPO — conductors nowadays are encouraged to travel the world.

The RLPO are lucky to get Janowski: he did good work at Dortmund, bringing an impressive *Lulu* to Leeds, and he has made some fine records, including the start of a highly promising Ring. In Liverpool on Tuesday he conducted the British premiere of Erich Korngold's Symphony in F sharp major, a lush piece of orchestral confectionery composed 32 years ago in America (where

Concerts

Symphony living in the past

Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool

Korngold was busy writing film music). The symphony is a well-made piece as can be expected (Korngold recorded it a decade ago), well varied in mood and texture, elegant in long, sumptuous melodies, which begin momentarily, then gradually trail away into something less memorable.

Korngold was a child-prodigy composer in Vienna during the First World War, when his operas attracted lively attention, more for good tunes than for credible drama. I was glad to hear this valid performance under Janowski, but would much rather hear him and the RLPO in some music more closely governed by tradition.

Korngold's symphony describes 1950 in terms of 1910. Poor boy, he never grew up.

Television

Sense of occasion

I dropped in on Nancy Astor (BBC 2) for the first time last night in order to find out if serials in nine parts make any sense when you have missed the first three: the quick answer of course is that they make neither more nor less sense but pretty much the same.

Our heroine is already married, betrayed, divorced, the pert mama of two substantial children, gloomily keeping house for Daddy in Virginia. What you need, said Daddy, is to leave the land of *Rainbow Country* and *Come with the Wind* and go to England, home of *Lillie* and *Jennie, The Duchess of Duke Street* and the nice but naughty king.

He did not put it quite like that, of course, but that is where Nancy and her sister Phyl fetched up, and those of us who had been lagging up to this point felt immediately at home for it is a country that even those who claim never to watch television at all know well. Clipped remarks emerge from under motionless lips. Couples whirl round the floor at soirées; eyes roll and tongues click among those whose cards are not filled, who must watch from the edge. Margot Asquith swoops from the higher branches like a bird of prey and all lower-class villains, carrying pencil and pad, are employed by the *Daily Mail*. Upper-class villains are usually Harry Cust, a convention honoured, like all the others, here. "What are you reading?" asked Phyl of her sister. "Who's Who." It was the same for us all.

Like many outrageous films, Nancy is obsessed by betrayal — until, that is, she meets Waldorf Astor (James Fox), which finally happens here. Being both very rich and very good, and unlikely to spend his or her money on cigarettes and drink, Waldorf is ideal and, by the end, she had said Yes. Cliveden here we come, but the show was mad to turn down Lord Revelstoke (Julian Glover) but, with the humourless Mrs Grenfell glaring in the background and Cust stirring the pot, she had to go and feel betrayed again. Mr Glover played with majestic conviction, but the most distinguished work on *Nancy Astor* is that of the designer, Tim Harvey, who alone has scrubbed a few clichés off the genre and given the interiors and the clothes a look of hand-tinted photographs, circa 1905. Slightly vulgar but marvellously right as a view of the Edwardian age.

Michael Ratcliffe

Entertainments Guide

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Henry Kissinger on how the West failed to meet the oil challenge

The energy crisis which began dramatically in 1973 altered irrevocably the world as it had grown up in the post-war period. The seemingly inexorable rise in prosperity was abruptly reversed. Simultaneously, inflation ran like a forest fire through the industrialized countries and recession left millions unemployed.

Transcending even the economic revolution was the emergence of oil as a weapon of political blackmail. The industrial democracies saw imposed on them not only an economic upheaval but fundamental changes in their social cohesion and political life.

As the new decade began, world conditions of supply and demand shifted inexorably against the consumers. The dimensions of the change were not immediately apparent. The illusion persisted that one was watching commercial bargaining and not a revolutionary upheaval.

The proximate cause was the overthrow in September 1969 of the pro-Western King Idris of Libya by the radical Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. (It must be stressed that the price explosion was not a personal decision; one way or another market conditions would have produced a price explosion, though perhaps over a longer period of time). Until then the dominant role among the oil-producing countries was played by essentially conservative governments whose interest in increasing their oil revenues was balanced by their dependence on the industrial democracies for protection against external (and perhaps even internal) threats. Gaddafi was free of such inhibitions. An avowed radical, he set out to extirpate Western influence. He did not care if in the process he weakened the global economy.

The working level of the United States Government, especially in the State Department, operated on the romantic view that the world radicalism was really frustrated Western liberalism. Third World leaders, they believed, had become extremist because the West had backed conservative regimes, because we did not understand their reformist aspirations, because their societies were backward and eager for change — for every reason, in fact, other than the most likely: ideological commitment to the implacable anti-Western doctrines they were espousing.

I did not, in Nixon's first term, take an initiating role in Middle Eastern policy. There were desultory discussions in the Washington Special Actions Group (WSAG) on what attitude to take toward the new Libyan regime. In a meeting of November 24, 1969, I raised the question whether to have the 40 Committee [The inter-agency committee supervising covert intelligence activities] canvass the possibility of covert action. A study was prepared of economic and political pressure points on Libya; but the agencies did not have their heart in it. All options involving action were rejected. According to the bureaucratic consensus, our only choice was to try to get along with Gaddafi.

Whereas America was deciding on passivity, Western Europe chose actively to curry favour with Libya's radical ruler. As is often the case, decisions

The Sunday Times serialization from the Kissinger memoirs continues this weekend with *When God Called Chairman Mao*.



Happiness is a country flowing with oil: Prince Fahd and Shaikh Yamani of Saudi Arabia in close conversation at an Opec meeting in Algiers in 1975

Oil: the blackmail weapon that changed the world

that seemed prudent and restrained when they were made have come to appear reckless to posterity. In the case of short-term economic prudence the West accepted Gaddafi's revolution — and this, as it turned out, was bound to affect also the West's political relations with the conservative oil producers.

Libya taught these rulers a fearful lesson: the industrial democracies would not protect friendly governments so long as their radical, avowedly hostile successors did not challenge the democracies' access to oil. Hence, there was no point in seeking to buy Western goodwill by restraint on oil prices or anything else. For a year or two, the occasion to apply this insight did not arise. But as market conditions changed, it subtly affected the attitudes of even the moderate governments.

Thus did the political balance also shift, just as market conditions were transforming the economic equilibrium. Radical Libya then triggered a process by which the host governments gradually discovered, and began to exercise, their dominant power over the world oil market.

There were three discernible stages in the revolution about to unfold: first, a creeping increase in prices; then the host governments' gradual, *de facto* takeover of ownership and operational control from the oil companies; and finally the resulting ability of the producer governments to link the sale of oil to political conditions, especially the Arab-Israeli conflict.

At the beginning of 1970, Libya demanded larger oil revenues from the companies operating on its soil. Libya picked on the most vulnerable link in the chain, the independent company Occidental Petroleum, and imposed production cutbacks on it more severe than those on its competitors. It was the first time a producing country had implemented what amounted to an embargo.

The majors in turn demonstrated their shortsightedness by letting an inconvenient competitor twist slowly, slowly in the wind, to use a phrase of a

later era, rejecting any measures of support to compensate Occidental for the costs of the cutback. Isolated and vulnerable, Occidental yielded to Libyan blackmail on September 4, 1970, agreeing to an immediate increase of 30 cents a barrel, rising to 40 cents over five years. The other companies soon followed suit.

At this stage, the economic impact of these settlements was less significant than the political implications. Heretofore the oil companies, bargaining as a unit, had imposed a unified price. Now the united front of the companies had been split, shattering one of the buffers between the producing and consuming countries. This set up a

with a vengeance, forging an efficient cartel willing to reduce its production to the costs of the cutback. Isolated and vulnerable, Occidental yielded to Libyan blackmail on September 4, 1970, agreeing to an immediate increase of 30 cents a barrel, rising to 40 cents over five years. The other companies soon followed suit.

At last the United States Government began to take an interest. It was urged on by the oil companies, which followed their time-honoured pattern of asking for assistance only at the last moment, and then only ad hoc, not for a long-term strategy which they feared would lead to government control. They asked for, and received, dispensation from the Department of Justice so that a united front of the companies would not be treated as a violation of anti-trust laws. At the urgent request of the companies, Under Secretary of State John M. Irwin II was dispatched to the Middle East on January 16, 1971, to urge moderation on the oil-producing nations.

Irwin proudly reported to the President on January 25 that in the three countries he had visited (Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait), he had stressed the need for a crucial weapon. The October war put a triumphal arch over this structure.

On October 16 Opec abandoned the creeping increase of oil prices in favour of a dramatic rise, and the Arab members of Opec, agreed to cut their oil production. These production cuts, whatever their political rationale, in fact sustained the higher price and laid the basis for even more dramatic increases.

The hesitant reaction of the consuming nations compounded their difficulties. Their reluctance to cooperate with one another perpetuated their vulnerability, virtually guaranteeing a permanent crisis.

The beginning of wisdom for an oil strategy among all major consumer nations. That was prevented by six months of transatlantic tensions now magnified by the panic triggered by the price rises, production cutbacks, and embargo. No European government took up our offer of private exchanges on energy cooperation. They missed no opportunity to dissociate from our Middle East diplomacy. By December 1973,

we were being told that some of our allies were asking for preferential treatment from the Arabs for having disavowed our Middle East policy. We could never confirm all these allegations but they were too numerous not to have a foundation. It was not one of the finer moments of allied relations.

The Opec ministers in Tehran on December 22-23 boosted the oil price from \$5.12 a barrel to \$11.65 a barrel — an increase of 128 per cent, on top of the 70 per cent October increase. It is now obvious that this decision was one of the pivotal events in the history of this century. Even now, the domestic political implications are still working themselves out. What happens when young men and women leave school and college to find their skills rejected and join the millions thrown out of work since the oil crisis? The way is open for demagoguery, political polarization, and violence.

As for the developing nations, if it was ever true that economic aid was necessary to prevent the division of our planet into the few who were rich and the many who were poor, if the maintenance of peace required us to try to close the gap, then the oil price rise worked marvelously to defeat these objectives. One's compassion is perhaps tempered by the patience at the quiescence within which they accepted the exactions of the oil producers and rallied instead against their fellow victims in the West. This reflects either helplessness or decrepit ideology.

Never before in history has a group of such relatively weak nations been able to impose with so little protest such a dramatic change in the way of life of the overwhelming majority of the rest of mankind. The poetic justice, if such it is, is that this "achievement" threatens their own stability, a perception that may be gradually dawning. Few political leaders can sustain the accelerated rate of growth made possible by such an enormous transfer of wealth. Dislocations are bound to occur.

The upheaval in Iran in the late 1970s was at once a caricature and a warning. The overheated economic development made possible by the price increases provoked an elemental reaction that rejected the very materialistic values that gave rise to the rapid growth; the end result was, ironically, the systematic impoverishment of the country. Nor is internal convulsion the only threat to producing nations. The economic enfeeblement of the industrial democracies may yet cause much of the oil states' material acquisitions to evaporate like a mirage. For a financial crisis in the West would destroy also the producers' investments in those countries. Or if the West proves economically unable to sustain the role of military protector in the Persian Gulf — or loses its incentive to do so on behalf of nations systematically undermining the world economy — then many of the oil producers may become easy pickings for foreign predators.

Thus the producers' dilemma approaches a joke played by history on those who would seek to force its pace. If they spend their exactions too rapidly, they risk domestic upheaval; if they hoard them, they court a weakening of the international economic system and a point where they too become victims.

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Poetry and profanity puzzle Melina Mercouri

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Ronald Butt

Listen to the candid friends

What is most striking about a collection of papers assessing the Government's economic performance, just published by the Institute of Economic Affairs under the general title "Could do better" is that the criticisms of those who support the Government's general position are incomparably more convincing than those who oppose it.

For the opponents, Professor Richard Layard of the London School of Economics and an economic adviser to the SDP, is convinced that the cardinal error has been the Government's insistence on fighting inflation without an income policy, which has resulted in unemployment rising much more than it otherwise would have done. Yet he is forced to recognize that a conventional incomes policy is politically impracticable and also economically distorting. (SDP leaders please note) and he therefore advocates a wage inflation tax levied on employers who give wage increases above a norm. He would exclude central and local government but include nationalized industries — which raises the weird vision of the Chancellor's taxing Sir Peter Parker for (say) giving way to Aslef or Sir Derek Ezra for yielding to the miners.

Still, it is at least a suggestion. Professor Mary Colledge, London, a past adviser to Labour ministers, argues that the Government's cardinal error has been to ignore the role of money wages in determining the operation of the economy. (With Mrs Thatcher) that productivity is at the heart of our difficulties and leave us with the thought that the issues are really political and not economic. At taking a side-view at the non-consensus politics of both Labour extremists and the present government.

Which brings me to the £9,000m boost for the economy proposed by Mr Peter Shore in his alternative Budget before I discuss the more constructive criticisms of the Government's economic supporters. To create jobs, Mr Shore advocates public capital spending; cutting the National Insurance surcharge and other taxes; lowering interest rates and a cheap pound. However, the inflationary consequences of such a package can hardly be ignored even by a Labour shadow Chancellor not yet constrained by economic reality.

Mr Shore's answer to inflation seems to be stringent government control at home; protectionism; and an attempt to work out a general understanding on wage restraint and cost control with the unions.

He dare not breathe the words "incomes policy" (as he virtually admits) but we all know that this is what he means: back to George Brown and the National Plan, and back to Wilson/Callaghan and the Social Contract, but this time with a much heavier dependence on protection and a socialist siege economy.

All this could be made to work at a price. What we should be clear about is that the greater the expansionist boost provided by a Labour government, the greater would be the necessity for a rigidly controlled society. If Weimar-type inflation was to be avoided, Expansion (probably only temporary) would be bought at a price to liberty that no previous Labour government has been willing to pay. That, of course, is Mr Healey's, Mr Shore's and Mr Hattersley's problem (and for all I know, Professor Peston's), though it is plainly no problem for Mr Benn.

So let us return to the critics among the Government's supporters. The most enthusiastic contributor to the Institute of Economic Affairs symposium is Professor Richard Stapleton of the Manchester Business School. He believes that the Government, in macro-economic terms, is on the way to an economic miracle. Yet he is also in doubt that, at the micro-economic level, the Government could do much more than to get the conditions right for entrepreneurship and growth.

Professor Stapleton believes that the Government could do much more to help growth by further financial off of new firms; by improving the tax position of new businesses and by insisting that firms contribute to an insurance fund to pay for redundancies.

Above all, he advocates encouraging share ownership as the real alternative to union power. This comes near to the heart of the matter. The Government will only "bear" unreasonable union power by passing it along making sure that every worker has a stake in the prosperity of his work-organization that is more to him than his stake in mass union power. This means legislating for works councils on the lines of the model; it means action by the government in giving workers a share in their companies.

The point is clearly grasped by a number of Conservative back-benchers who are wholly on the side of Mrs Thatcher's "dry" macro-economics, but who also believe (more so, curiously, than many "wets") that she should do more to draw on the spirit that moved the National Freight workers' strike and should do so before the election if it is to have the chance of the second term.

Mr Peter Horden, for instance, a senior Tory back-bencher specializing in economic and financial matters, is convinced that it would be possible for the Government to bring in a short Bill in this Parliament allowing workers to buy shares in their firms on the same basis that council tenants can buy houses — say at a 30 per cent discount which would depend on the shares being held for a term of years.

He argues that it is morally right as well as expedient to move in this direction; that workers should have a stake in the organization to which they give their working lives; that it is wrong that share prices are so overwhelmingly determined by the operations of financial institutions whose operations often have little reference to the business realities of a particular company. What is more, a market with more private investors, gradually achieved by worker share-owning, would help prevent some of the more meaningless market fluctuations.

Such arguments from "dry" Tories are much more impressive and constructive criticism of government policy than the demands of "wets" who want only to buy another term of office with blanket expansion, and never mind the inflationary deluge to come. The government would be wise to accept that it has the capacity to do better; listen to the friends of its macro-economic policy, and remember that to be "dry" does not oblige it to be hard or rigid. It needs the workers on its side in an industrial democracy; if it does not get them there in this parliament, the SDP will do its best to win them, on precisely such issues, in the next.

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Bad figures

The news that the SDF team came 15th of 16 in a computerized competition at running the economy will scarcely surprise. Unformulated policies are bound to cause some vacillation.

The Conservatives did even worse. They came last in a contest at Kingston Polytechnic in which teams from polytechnics and college students. The Tories' downfall, as you might guess, was their insistence on reducing inflation at all costs. Labour, led by Clive Soley, MP for Hammersmith North, came tenth, but discouragingly for all home economists the winners were sixth formers from the Lycée Français in Kensington.

PHS

The effect of the PHS will have been



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

MUZZLING IRA GUNS

Since the days of the Fenians the United States of America has been a copious source of moral and material support for the British. At some of the more crucial stages of the struggle that led up to the 1921 de Valera truce, the IRA found more opportunity to be on the side of the Atlantic than at home. The Provisional IRA in its turn has cultivated the America assiduously. It is now the IRA's turn to be on the side of the Atlantic. The IRA has been able to register itself as an agent of the IRA after years of flying publicly about its aims. It has been a principal supplier of funds. Intelligence sources estimate that some 2000 fully effective weapons have been acquired by the IRA from the United States since 1970. All this has been done against the active disapproval of the United States authorities, the urgent pleas of successive prime ministers of the Irish Republic, and consistent discouragement by respectable leaders of the Irish community in America.

Although the hunger strike and self-inflicted deaths of republican prisoners in Northern Ireland last summer fired anti-British sentiment in the United States, and although the money raised in the United States for the IRA has been used to buy weapons, the collapse of the hunger strike in the face of the British Government's steady and

clearly justified resolve has created space in which apologists for the discharge of Britain's responsibilities in Northern Ireland can make themselves heard. At the same time the American law enforcement agencies have been having some successes in their watch on IRA gun-running activities, including charges brought by the FBI of a conspiracy to ship weapons to the IRA by four Irish Americans, one of whom was a director of Moaid. The case is now coming to court. One can only speculate as to the effect of these successes on the ability of the IRA to maintain its supplies of arms and ammunition from the United States. But the potential can be measured against the facts, or rather the estimates put together from intelligence sources, that half the weapons coming illegally into Northern Ireland in 1980-81 are believed to have passed through the United States, and that the proportion coming into the hands of the Provisional IRA from that source was rather more than half. That is much the most important source of supply. Next are thefts from arsenals, dealers or other persons in the British Isles; then home-made weapons; and only then weapons manufactured in the eastern block.

These set-backs for the IRA have been matched by similar

reverses in both parts of Ireland. The Royal Ulster Constabulary acting on a much improved flow of intelligence, including that from informers, has made a significant number of arrests leading to serious charges. Arms and explosives in unusually large quantities have also been uncovered on both sides of the border. It would be tempting to conclude, and contrary to experience, to draw from these encouraging developments any firm conclusion about the IRA's operational capacity in the near future. The attempted murder of the other day of the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland is a chilling reminder that a well-found terrorist organization can always strike so long as it remains in the field.

How long it remains in the field depends much on the degree of harassment to which it is subjected by the forces of law. It depends even more on the terrorists' will to struggle on, which is in turn governed by their hopes of success. The fact that people are informing more freely against the IRA is one that must damage those hopes. The new Irish government, when it is formed, and Mr Prior with his new initiative, when he is ready, have a duty to be alert in what they do to anything that might cause those hopes to revive.

WHEN THE KILLING HAS TO STOP

The vote in the House of Representatives in Washington in favour of negotiations between the two sides in El Salvador is an indication of the opposition that is building up to United States policy in the region. Negotiations of this sort are widely seen as a possible way of ending the bloodshed in El Salvador. They were recently given public backing by President López Portillo of Mexico, who offered his country's services as a mediator. But they have so far been refused by the ruling junta in El Salvador as being a capitulation to the guerrillas, and this refusal has been supported by the Reagan administration.

It is natural that the United States should be concerned about signs of communist subversion and do what it can to counter them. All those who believed that an American retreat from Indochina would usher in a new era of independence and happiness for Cambodia and Laos, as well as Vietnam, might remember the terrible sequel.

But there is a difference between totalitarian communist/Marxist movements encouraged or even directed from outside and indigenous pluralist movements which have a left-wing colouring but are basically coalitions of revolt against the corrupt exercise of power. The rhetoric from Washington is close to suggesting that all leftist movements are implanted in Latin America by the schemers of the Kremlin or Havana and that is a dangerous over-simplification.

They are the product of very particular circumstances which vary from country to country, but which tend to have certain points in common, among them a concentration of wealth in the hands of a few, repressive governments and pressures for reform. In the past, American

influence was often a very powerful factor, particularly in the small countries of Central America, and it was almost always thrown on the side of the status quo. It is, therefore, hardly surprising that opposition movements have adopted anti-American attitudes, or even that they should sometimes look for assistance to the United States' arch rival, the Soviet Union, as Cuba has. This may be irritating or even menacing, but to see them as having been put there by some outside influence is to get the sequence of events in the wrong order.

In proposing a programme of aid President Reagan has moved some way towards rectifying American policy and that is to be welcomed. It is true the purely economic aid is very limited and may well be even more so once Congress has its say, and that its effects can only be felt in the long term. But President Reagan, by these acts, has recognized that the best way to counter subversive movements is to eliminate the grievances on which they feed. The need now is to carry the same approach into thoughtful diplomacy, away from indiscriminate confrontation and into mediation so that moderate forces may be encouraged and not forced to ally with extremists. This requires acknowledging that the motive force behind the Sandinista government in Nicaragua or some of the guerrillas in El Salvador, are as much nationalistic as Marxist. In Nicaragua there is a leftist government with a strong Marxist element and it has lately been making moves to suppress dissent. But the Sandinistas still have a commitment to pluralism and to the maintenance of a large private sector. They are also anxious to have good relations with Washington. There is scope for discussion.

of the treatment of his sickest patients. This could mean that a patient will get no treatment should the patient's consultant psychiatrist and the medical commissioner disagree, and this in spite of the fact that two doctors and a lay person (relative, social worker, or judge) may have already agreed that the patient should be detained in hospital for treatment.

Who will be responsible in law for such circumstances? Where will patients be able to obtain recourse for inadequate treatment? The consultant will be faced with either discharging a sick and possibly dangerous patient or detaining him without treatment, thus denying a disabled individual a chance of improved health.

Next there will be a massive increase in unnecessary bureaucratic procedures and a considerable diversion of medical resources from the provision of patient care to an expensive quango.

Worst of all nurses and psychiatrists are opposed to detention without treatment, believing that such an eventuality would turn psychiatric hospitals into prisons. If Clause 38(3) is passed staff will increasingly refuse to admit patients under compulsory detention, thus exacerbating the problem which successive governments have tried to tackle, that of persuading NHS services to accept and treat the difficult, disturbed, and dangerous patient.

In El Salvador, too, there are hard-line Marxists among the guerrillas. But one of the main objectives of negotiations should be to ensure that the influence of the hard-liners in any settlement is limited, and that the moderates are strengthened.

The dilemmas in El Salvador will not go away with the election, even if President Duarte's Christian Democrats defeat the extreme right. The guerrillas will still be there and American opinion, barely recovered from the traumas of Vietnam, is strongly opposed to deeper involvement and especially the commitment of American combat troops. So the risk remains that the present regime could be overthrown and replaced by one which had become violently anti-American and forced into the Cuban camp.

The cease-fire and negotiation advocated by Mexico's President López Portillo is a canny course for American policy to pursue. The Russians and Cubans have their best opportunities when there is fighting going on because then they or their allies can send arms to the side they favour. When the fighting stops their influence is liable to diminish because they cannot supply the economic help which is then needed; the Russians have already made it clear they are not prepared to take on the burden of another Cuba in Central America.

Mexico takes the view, of course, that the revolutionary movements in Central America are comparable to its own revolution earlier this century which has long been stabilised and that it is possible to come to terms with them. But it is at least as concerned as the United States to thwart the establishment of hostile governments in Central America. The record of confrontation is hardly so successful as to deny President Portillo's prudence a hearing.

None of these questions was raised in the earlier White Paper and consultation procedures. We do not believe that HM Government or Parliament wish to achieve these effects, and we therefore urge the House of Commons to reject Clause 38(3) in its present form.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN GUNN,
PAUL BOWDEN,
JOHN HAMILTON,
DAVID MAWSON,
JAMES MACKETH,
PAMELA TAYLOR,
Institute of Psychiatry,
De Crespigny Park,
Camberwell, SE5.
February 26.

Patients from abroad

From Mrs Margaret Plozman
Sir, In a leader today (February 24) you point out the complicated and distressing problems that would arise from Mr Fowler's plan to raise £6m from six million visitors to this country to help defray the cost of their emergency medical treatment. If he wishes to raise this sum, would he not be well advised to cut the Gordian knot and charge all adult visitors from the particular countries in question a flat fee, say, £2 on arrival here? Yours faithfully,
MARGARET PLOWMAN,
52 Felstead Road,
Olympion,
Kent.
February 24.

Wormwood Scrubs disorders

From Dr J.E. Thomas
Sir, Once again a report is produced on the prison system which condemns the behaviour of uniformed prison officers. Your report (February 25) on the Wormwood Scrubs "riot" catalogues the same depressing list of staff misdemeanours. And, once again, concentration on the real issue—mischief among staff—has generally been deflected by discussion around the usual irrelevant bolt holes, the records of the prisoners, and overcrowding.

Your Correspondent in today's issue (February 26) reminds us of the chronic failure of uniformed staff to obey orders, or sometimes even to obey the law. And the list could have filled one of your pages. The breakdown of discipline is so widespread and of such long standing that we forget how serious a breach is the refusal, as at Flocke Church, to allow members of the discipline of Visitors into the prison: a person who is the representative of both the Home Secretary and the community and is entitled under the law to visit at any time.

This kind of behaviour, which, any government will tell you, is widespread, is illegal and leaves out of account such acts as the vindictive stopping of visits on Boxing Day, which was described as "negotiated".

Perhaps the most important point in the Scrubs report concerns the behaviour of the staff after the riot. As elsewhere this demonstrates that the officers do indeed decide on how the prisons will be run. The prison governors, in their evidence to the May inquiry, asked for a strengthening of the discipline code. This was refused. But until this issue of staff caprice is faced we can only look forward to more law breaking and vindictive behaviour by staff and a consequent failure of our historic commitment to treating reasonably, not to be legally, those who are locked away. Mr O'Brien said that the governors are "in the middle". It is time that they were put back on top, and high time that the Home Office restored the authority which we in the community have authorised them to exercise. Yours faithfully,
J.E. THOMAS,
The University of Nottingham,
Department of Adult Education,
14-22 Shakespeare Street,
Nottingham.
February 26.

Satellite TV

From the Managing Director of BBC Television

Sir, I am sad that Paul Fox has written a letter (March 2) so sharply critical of the BBC's application to run a subscription channel. He knows as well as I do that someone will end up running such a service and it will consist to a large extent of new feature films. The BBC's policy will be to insist that these films are made available to network television, either BBC or ITV, after approximately the same delay as at present; and to ensure that any profit made from the enterprise will go back into television or film and not be diversified into other activities. In short, the licence fee payer will gain from the BBC's plan. Yours faithfully,
ALASDAIR MILNE,
BBC,
Television Centre, W12.
March 2.

The Romanovs

From Mr George Engle
Sir, The Romanovs evidently demand weighty tomes. Piers Brendon, reviewing Professor Lincoln's recent effort (February 25) describes it as "an American blockbuster which weighs two and a half pounds and packs a punch on every page". My copy of William Gerhard's pistol-packing book on them, published in 1940 with the title "Evolution of the past as a mirror for the present", weighs all of 3lb 7oz and, though not mentioned in Michael Holroyd's piece on Gerhard which you published in 1981, is (as the saying goes), as good as a novel, and certainly deserves to be better known. Yours faithfully,
GEORGE ENGLE,
32 Wood Lane,
Highgate, NE.
February 26.

Lead in petrol

From the Director, Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, Ltd.
Sir, I am responding to The Times' leader (February 9, "Poison in the air") where you comment on lead in petrol. In view of my position I have had to take an interest in this subject because of requests for information on the likely effect of lead-free petrol on car engines.

I must say at the outset that car engines, of course, have to be run on lead-free petrol. If they are to maintain the same performance as at present, the engines will have to be bigger and they will certainly be less economical. Present engines cannot run on lead-free petrol and will fail if it is tried. They also cannot run on petrol at 0.15 grammes per litre (g/l) unless the octane rating is maintained. It is for this reason that there will be additional costs in refining. But, and I emphasise this, both vehicle manufacturers and the petroleum industry can respond to these demands if they are laid upon them. From now on I speak as a father and a recent grandfather from an entirely personal point of view. Sources of lead in blood are food, water and air. The water contribution depends, it seems,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Dichotomy of values' on cricket tour

From Mr D. G. Auger
Sir, Once again controversy has erupted over a number of English cricketers who have gone to South Africa to work at their chosen profession. Their motives are almost certainly mercenary and have nothing to do with the endorsement of the noxious political philosophy apartheid.

I am appalled, not by the desire of any person making a living from a profession depending as it does on form and physical health to increase their gross earnings, but by the wave of hypocrisy that inevitably follows. After all cricketers from India, Pakistan and the West Indies come to this country for the same reason and actually play in county teams alongside South Africans.

There appears to be no dissent regarding this anomaly or the fact that Britain and South Africa continue to enjoy very strong and mutually profitable trade links. This dichotomy of values is compounded by continuing sporting and trade links with the Soviet Union and her satellites, all countries in which the cause of human rights leaves much to be desired. Afghanistan is forgotten and the war against man's inhumanity to man returns to the cricket field, so pale is the shadow of this once great nation that its falling is not sufficient for bad lips to stop this ridiculous play.

Yours faithfully,
D.G. AUGER,
6 Courlands Avenue,
Hampton,
Middlesex.
March 2.

From Miss Alison Davis
Sir, Your correspondent, John Woodcock (March 2), suggests the 12 English cricketers currently in South Africa are simply rewarding the efforts of the South African Cricket Union (SACU) to bring multi-racial cricket to South African playing fields. He chooses to ignore the political implications of their visit, is he not naive as to think that in South Africa sport and politics are played in different arenas? The players may feel they are just playing cricket; the South African Government no doubt feels it has won a political victory. It will exploit the affair point out to its own supporters that there is a good deal of sympathy worldwide for South Africa — and by that the Government means (however much the players themselves or even the SACU may protest) sympathy for the policies of apartheid. Or perhaps Mr Woodcock can

suggest a different interpretation of the fact that the South Africans playing against the English team will all receive full Springbok colours? Yours,
ALISON DAVIS,
41, Ayrshire Road,
Stoke Newington, N16.
March 2.

From Mr David Little
Sir, Amidst the furore about the South African cricket tour two things strike me. How strange that on the day when there is such a fuss in the House of Commons, the captain of the "official" rugby union tour should receive the OBE from the Queen.

Secondly, Mr Boycott's smile must be wryer than usual at the talk of banning these players. When he turned down the money offered by Mr Parker was there not a similar threat? Will anyone give me odds against, say, Graham Gooch playing for, or indeed captaining, England within the next five years? It must be a good bet. Yours faithfully,
DAVID LITTLE,
21 Woodlands Road,
Formby,
Liverpool.
March 2.

From Mr Tony Hodges
Sir, I was sitting at home last night watching the news and the latest information concerning the outrageous behaviour of England's cricketers, daring to appear in South Africa.

I was so indignant that I took off my jacket (made in South Africa) and opened another bottle of South African wine. I even put down the British travel brochure inviting me to holiday in South Africa. How can we possibly think of playing with people we do business with? Surely it is not cricket. Yours etc,
TONY HODGES,
The Gazette,
Clumber Road West,
The Park,
Nottingham.

From Mr G. H. Jacobs
Sir, Let this country give hope and support to the untouchables by refusing to play cricket with India until the vile and pernicious caste system has been abolished. Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY H. JACOBS,
9 St Clare Street,
Minorie, EC3.
March 2.

BL Bathgate sale

From Mr D. R. G. Andrews
Sir, I refer to your leader column of March 2 in which you referred to the sale of Leyland's agricultural tractor business. I must take issue with the statement that this was a "knockdown price". The fact is the business had been losing significant amounts of money and had no hope of viability at Bathgate, production capacity being several times larger than any foreseeable level of future sales. It would have had to be closed altogether if no buyer had been found. As it was, the deal was struck at an advantageous price, not only in financial terms, but also in that it gave Bathgate some on-going business on engine supply and saved some jobs. There was no question of hanging a public "for sale" notice on the tractor business, particularly as the disposal involved the closure of the existing Bathgate operation. Such a premature announcement would undoubtedly have resulted in an immediate erosion of customer confidence with the

earlier closure of the business being a certain consequence.

However, we did receive a number of approaches from interested parties against which we were able to judge the offer which was finally accepted. I find it difficult to follow the argument in the last sentence in the article, which talks of the possibility of "managerial mistakes being 'fudged and concealed'". Our procedures and accounts are constantly reviewed and approved by independent auditors.

Additionally, in the case of the tractor disposal we gave full information to the Department of Industry, in accordance with the agreed arrangements between BL and the Government for monitoring the company's progress. As you know, the Comptroller and Auditor General, who has mounted an inquiry into the sale, has full access to the department's files.

Yours sincerely,
D. R. G. ANDREWS,
Executive Vice-Chairman, BL and Chairman, Leyland Group.
BL Public Limited Company,
35-38 Portman Square, W1.

East Timor

From Mr R. A. Hood
Sir, I would like to congratulate you on the recent leader (February 24) on the present situation in East Timor. We have long been concerned about the sufferings of the people of that region and would like to press for further debate and discussion in the national press.

One of the most worrying aspects of the situation in the East Timor is the lack of information from and about East Timor. We would hope that the Indonesians would agree to a request made by our partner

agency, Australian Catholic Relief, to admit observers from various aid agencies to examine the feasibility of restoring basic agricultural conditions in East Timor.

In general we wish to add our voice of support to the growing call for international observers to visit East Timor to give an objective assessment of the situation. Yours sincerely,
R.A. HOOD,
Administrator,
The Catholic Fund for Overseas Development,
21a Soho Square, W1.
February 26.

Mr Jeremy Thorpe and Amnesty

From Dr Gordon McGregor
Sir, Through your well-intentioned letter (February 27), which begins by deploring the worldwide abuse of human rights, Mr David Astor and his friends may only succeed in adding to it. Mr Jeremy Thorpe has been appointed Director of the British Section of Amnesty by an open and rigorous selection procedure. Does he not now have the right to at least a brief opportunity to demonstrate his competence in the post before his unsuitability is further debated?

He was, conceivably, chosen partly because of the flair and judgment he showed in a previous lengthy period of political leadership. If your correspondents were to arraign retrospectively all the public figures of even our recent past whose judgments on private relationships had sometimes been reprehensible they would have a long list to work through.

They ask for "impeccable judgment" but have between them enough experience of human affairs to know that it is not to be had. Those who appoint can do no more than seek out the best available judgment for a particular post and, knowing that it will be fallible, advise and support it unless and until it proves damagingly inadequate.

I write as a rank and file member of Amnesty who neither knows Mr Thorpe nor shares his political affiliation, and remain, Sir, as your correspondents requested, respectfully yours,
GORDON MCGREGOR,
Principal's House,
The College,
Lord Mayor's Walk,
York.
February 28.

From Mr John Hall and others

Sir, The move to oust Mr Jeremy Thorpe from his new job as director of Amnesty International's British section may already have succeeded. The undersigned wish to record their sadness that an organisation devoted to the succour and rescue of persecuted individuals should even consider harassing and perhaps ousting out their new director before he has even sat at his desk and looked round him at the problems facing Amnesty International.

Yours fr.,
JOHN I. WINCH,
JOHN BAIRD & WELLS,
PAUL HOBHOUSE,
Ansford Cottage,
Ansford,
Cambridgeshire,
Somerset.
February 27.

From Mrs Michael Noakes
Sir, Quite apart from the fact that Jeremy Thorpe was found not guilty, I always understood that amnesty was the pardon of past offences. Yours faithfully,
VIVIAN NOAKES,
146 Hamilton Terrace,
St John's Wood, NW8.
February 27.

Canada's Constitution

From Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke, QC, MP for Darwen (Conservative)

Sir, In his letter (March 1) Sir Anthony Kershaw misunderstands Sir Derek Walker-Smith's letter of February 25 and consequently misinterprets it. Nowhere does Sir Derek suggest that any finding by the Canadian courts can make an Act of the British Parliament, in his letter Sir Derek described such an Act as "an instrument valid in English law as the product of the sovereignty of Parliament", that being the principle applicable to this country as being a unitary state with no written Constitution.

The danger to which Sir Derek rightly drew attention was the possibility, if the Canada Bill is enacted before judgment is pronounced, of a conflict between an Act valid in English law and a decision of the Canadian courts related to their federal Constitution.

Sir Anthony refers to the obligation of the British Parliament "to see that the Canadian request is a 'proper request'". But how can we know that the request is "proper" until the Supreme Court has decided whether the request was proper in accordance with the conventions of the Canadian Constitution — the very point to be canvassed in the proceedings in the Canadian courts?

To stigmatise such litigation as either "frivolous" or "vexatious" may well be regarded as offensive by judges and lawyers in Canada and may provoke a very dangerous reaction in the Province of Quebec. Surely the wise and statesmanlike course is to await, before proceeding further with the Bill, the judgment of the Supreme Court, which is confidently expected before the end of the year.

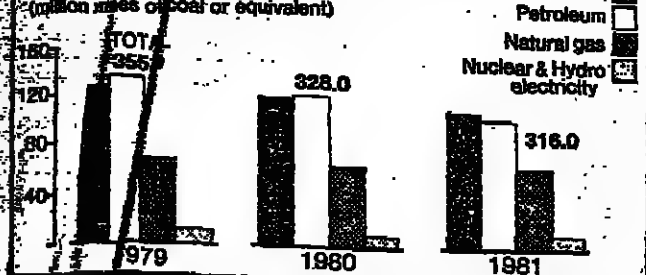
I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
CHARLES FLETCHER-COOKE,
House of Commons.
March 2.

Hot line

From Mr Barry C. Martin
Sir, Referring to Saturday's correspondence (February 27) when they are bad they are very bad! January 8, we informed Telecom of our proposed move, on March 1, to premises only next door. It is now the morning of March 1 and we have no service at either our old or new premises. Yours,
B. MARTIN,
Martin and Warnock,
3 Bromley Road, SE6.

Fuel consumption up

UK ENERGY CONSUMPTION



United Kingdom consumption of primary fuels was equivalent to 93.2 million tonnes of oil in the three months to the end of January, a rise of only 0.7 per cent on the corresponding period a year earlier. Motor spirit deliveries were down 6.2 per cent in the three months. Petroleum output, however, was 23.5 million tonnes, a rise of 8.5 per cent on a year earlier. Natural gas consumption rose by 7.1 per cent and coal by 0.4 per cent.

Drop in pension rebate

Members of occupational pension schemes which are contracted out of the State earnings-related pension scheme will pay more for their pensions from April 1983. New terms announced yesterday by the Government said that the rebate to both employer and employee in a contracted-out scheme will be reduced from 7 per cent to 6.25 per cent. This means that employees' National Insurance contributions will rise from 6.25 per cent of relevant earnings to 6.6 per cent, after April 1983.

More BL jobs lost

A further 200 jobs seem certain to be lost at British Leyland's truck plant at Bathgate, West Lothian, after JCB, the earth-moving company, said yesterday it was pulling out of the remainder of its £5m engines contract. The Staffordshire engine has decided to standardize on Perkins engines. A BL spokesman said the news came as a great blow.

Carl Marks sues Russia

Carl Marks is suing the Soviet Union — Carl Marks Inc. of New York, that is, a securities company operating from the bastion of capitalism, Wall Street. The company has filed suits in the southern district court of New York seeking \$618,75m (\$325m) plus interest from Russia. The case is being brought on behalf of some 3,000 holders of two debt issues sold in the United States in 1916 for the Imperial Russian Government and repudiated by Russia in 1918. Due in 1921, the \$25m 5 1/2 per cent were payable in American gold coin.

Bid setback

Sketchley, the dry cleaners, suffered a blow yesterday in its first United States takeover bid for Means, Inc., the Chicago workwear and linen rental business, rival suitors from the Philadelphia-based ARA Services group, stepped in offering \$37 a share, valuing Means at \$46m (\$25.5m) against the \$40.5m offered by Sketchley at \$33 a share.

Mr Walter Goldsmith, director general of the Institute of Directors, warned business leaders by yesterday that they should expect a reflationary Budget. Mr Leo Tindemann, Belgian Foreign Minister, has again called on the United States, Japan and the EC to improve monetary cooperation.

Emergency Opec meeting could cut prices again

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will hold an emergency meeting this month to discuss the world glut, Dr Mansour al-Odeibi, president of Opec, announced yesterday. The move, which comes only a day after the North Sea oil prices were cut by \$4 a barrel, increases the possibility of more reductions in official world prices, with beneficial effects on western economies.

Dr al-Odeibi, who is also oil minister of the United Arab Emirates, said in Abu Dhabi that most of Opec's 13 members had agreed to the meeting. Some experts believe it could be held as early as the end of next week.

A meeting has been expected for some time, and the decision comes after two weeks of intensive diplomatic contacts within Opec. There was no indication last night, however, whether Saudi Arabia, the organization's largest producer, will attend. Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan al-Nahyan, president of the United Arab Emirates, will visit King Khalid, of Saudi Arabia, today, probably to press the Saudis to attend.

The presence of the Saudis, who produce about 40 per cent of Opec's output, is regarded as vital if Opec is to make any real impact on the present turbulent world markets.

If the meeting is held, Saudi Arabia will be urged to cut its production to help maintain the present Opec pricing structure, based on a \$34 a barrel benchmark. Otherwise Opec members



Millionaire publisher Robert Maxwell yesterday: a hint that he may become the third man in the fight for ACC.

Maxwell hints at joining fight for ACC

By Philip Robinson

Millionaire publisher Mr Robert Maxwell admitted yesterday that he owns non-voting shares in Associated Communications Corporation and hinted he could become the third man in a fight to gain control of the asset-rich empire formerly headed by Lord Grade.

He would join Australian Mr Robert Holmes a Court, who replaced Lord Grade as chairman and chief executive and has two bids, one worth £36m and another worth £46.5m on the table and Mr Gerald Ronson, whose Heron Corporation is now offering nearly £20m.

In his first interview since entering the battle, Mr Ronson said yesterday that he would not be prepared to run ACC if Mr Holmes a Court retained his 51 per cent non-voting stake.

"I don't believe Mr Holmes a Court wants to own ACC. He's either going to sell at

the best price he can get or break up the company. I do not intend to go in and strip the company and destroy it. Mr Holmes a Court says the difference between him and me is that I get emotionally attached to my business. That's right. I do get emotionally attached to the people who work for me.

"I don't know when the directors of ACC are going to start acting responsibly to the people of that company," he said.

He is still waiting to meet the board of ACC, a request which was first lodged on January 13.

Mr Ronson said if he gained control of ACC, there would be an orderly withdrawal from films in the United States, Lord Grade could continue on a contract which would pay him £202,000 a year until 1984 and then be terminated at six months' notice, and that Mr

Jack Gill, dismissed managing director of ACC, could well be brought back.

"I don't want to get involved with the court case over Mr Gill's pay-off, but if a man was earning £125,000 a year and was thrown out — it was a straight fight with Lord Grade, him or me — for reasons we still don't know and he had worked there that long, then he may be entitled to it."

Mr Maxwell said he bought the shares some while ago "as an investment". Since then the two takeover offers have chased the price from 66p to a 12-month new peak last night of 91p. The stock market has convinced itself that higher prices for the entertainment property group, whose asset backing is put at 125p a share, is on the way.

Mr Maxwell said: "I am watching the situation. I am

not going to say I will make a bid and I can't say whether I'm buying any more shares, but the court decision opens the situation."

He was referring to Monday's Appeal Court ruling which effectively paved the way for ACC to be sold to the highest bidder.

Meanwhile, the ACC board gathers today for the first formal meeting since the Appeal Court judgment. It is likely they will discuss how they might sell assets valued in excess of £7m.

Under the Takeover Code, they could either ask Mr Ronson's permission, seek a ruling of the full Takeover Panel, or ask shareholders' permission. Mr Holmes a Court is expected to make a statement next week on whether he intends to increase his bid for the group. Heron's offer document is due out on Monday morning.

Dawn raid planned for Fleet?

By Ronald Pullen

There is widespread speculation that today's stock market debut of Fleet Holdings, Trafalgar House's demerged newspaper and publishing interests, will coincide with a raid on the company's shares.

A number of likely candidates have been mentioned including a consortium led by Mr Jocelyn Stevens, former deputy chairman of Express Newspapers; Mr Robert Holmes a Court, Mr Tim Rowland of Lorrain, and Mr Robert Maxwell.

Mr Maxwell denied planning a dawn raid on Fleet. He however said that he still harboured ambitions to own a Fleet Street newspaper.

Meanwhile Fleet shares are expected to start dealings at around 22.25p against the stated net assets of 59p and a 20p par value.

ROMANIA 'MILLSTONE'

From Peter Norman, Brussels, March 3

Romania's proposals to reschedule about \$2,400m (£1,325m) of its Western debt have left bankers resentful at the way they were asked for re-scheduling and cast doubt on the usefulness of Eastern Bloc countries joining the International Monetary Fund to repair their economies.

"After Poland, it's the second Comecon millstone round our necks and such cases set a bad example to other Eastern Bloc debtors," said a West German banker summing up Romania's request for an agreement rescheduling most of its debts due this year and about \$1,000m of debt outstanding from last year.

After talks in Frankfurt with a small group of its bankers last week, Romania sent telex messages to its 200 or so Western creditor institutions proposing that it repay the \$2,400m over 6 1/2 years.

Post Office chief predicts £80m profit

By Bill Johnston

Profits on the postal service this year could reach £80m, Mr Ron Dearing, Post Office chairman, told a Parliamentary Select Committee on Industry and Trade yesterday. But he warned, investment was threatened by the Government's inflexible attitude to external financing limits.

The postal service is expected to return a profit of £70m, nearly £20m above target, and contrasts with the profit of £23.3m achieved last year, which was £20m below. Girobank will make up the balance.

Mr Dearing told the committee that the Post Office needed to invest £700m over the next five years. Through financing constraints, next year's investment would be £130m instead of £220m.

About £140m is needed to complete the mechanization of mail sorting offices. £100m is wanted to replace inadequate or outdated sorting offices. £170m is required to adapt or replace buildings. The remainder of the investment would be used to improve buildings and buy new equipment.

Government financial targets require the Post Office to return 2 per cent on turnover (after interest) on the postal side of the business. These targets expire at the end of this financial year and are being reviewed by the Department of Industry.

The Post Office claims that efficiency contributed to the profits, although it increased prices in February by 9.3 per

cent. It intends to reduce its costs by about 5 per cent over the next three years. Inland letters which, in 1981, contributed about 58 per cent of the revenue, would be substantially affected by the lack of investment.

According to Mr Dearing, the financing limits prevent the corporation using profits as required. He warned: "If such restrictions, the planned capital programme will need to be cut by 30-40 per cent. This could lead to a reduction in service and efficiency through the postponement of the 'completion of the letter mechanization programme'."

Agency services or counter services which, in 1981, contributed 21.6 per cent of the corporation's profits, have grown in the past year and are destined for further growth. Income in 1980-81 for such services was £38m and is estimated to reach £43m this financial year.

The Post Office has abandoned a formula for charging government departments for these services and has had talks with the Treasury on a method of charging. Further discussions are to be held with individual departments.

The volume of inland letters has remained about the same as the previous year, some 9,500 million items. Overseas mail services, which made a profit of £1.2m last year from an income of £222m, are expected to show a loss this year of £2.4m on an income of £250m.

Pact with Opec needed, says Thatcher adviser

'No upturn this century'

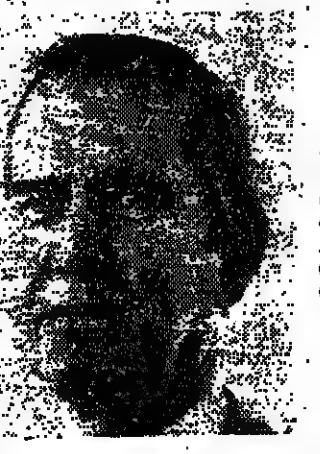
By Melvyn Westlake

A senior economic adviser to the Prime Minister yesterday predicted that there would be no significant upturn in Western economies before the 1990s, and possibly not before the end of the century.

Professor Sir Douglas Hague said another period of prosperity like that of the 1950s and 1960s would have to wait until new growth industries emerged.

Western countries, he said, should try to work out some understanding with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries over the way the oil price should increase from year to year. Professor Hague was, however, not optimistic that such an understanding would be reached.

Addressing a financial conference in London, he forecast yesterday that the 1980s would see much greater exchange rate stability than in the 1970s. He could not see western governments relaxing their efforts to "squeeze out" inflation, through the use of high interest rates, for a year or two.



Professor Hague: pessimist.

The joker in this particular pack remained the price of oil. This was more a political phenomenon rather than an economic one. Forecasting was therefore difficult. "I remain a moderate pessimist. I do not believe the prophets of doom who predict that a new oil price increase in the mid-1980s will bring the world to economic and even military disaster."

The emergence of France, Germany and the United States as important manufacturing nations in the 1870 and 1880s allowed Britain from its hitherto preeminent position with the consequence that it expressed 20 years of depression.

Professor Hague referred to suggestions that the Western nations now faced a similar period of years during which they would have to adjust to the success of the newly industrializing nations. This was a gloomy forecast, but that did not make it wrong.

The period of 1950 to 1973 was very much the golden age of the motor car. The next upturn would have to be based on something new.

NCB faces monopolies inquiry

By Jonathan Davis and Derek Harris

The Government yesterday ordered the Monopolies Commission to investigate the efficiency of the National Coal Board as part of a drive to monitor the performance of nationalized industries.

The commission will be carrying out six other investigations, including one into the Civil Aviation Authority. Although the Government attempted to play down the coal investigation as just another routine part of the commission's expanded role, there is no doubt that politically, the commission's conclusions will be highly sensitive. The investigation comes at a time when the coal industry is facing a critical change of course, Wales.

with the election of Mr Arthur Scargill as president of the miners' union, and the imminent retirement of Sir Derek Ears, the board chairman.

The wide-ranging inquiry will include the coal board's operating costs and its investment plans. Interest in both Government and the industry will be focused on whether the commission tackles the question of the closure of uneconomic pits.

The coal investigation will be followed by inquiries into two regional water authorities, Anglian and North West, and two electricity boards, Yorkshire and South Wales.

Caledonian MacBrayne, ferry operators with a monopoly in the Scottish islands and part of the Scottish Transport Group, will also be investigated.

The investigation of the Anglian and North West water authorities will test whether they can improve the efficiency and reduce the costs of their sewerage operations.

In future the Government will announce its investigation programme for the coming year in advance. Mr John Biffen, the Secretary of State for Trade, said. But after an investigation of an industry a fresh inquiry would not be mounted for at least four years.

CSI wants new investor protection

By Lorna Bourke

There is an urgent need for new legislation to protect investors, the council for the Securities Industry has told the Department of Trade.

The council also supports the need for a statutory authority to regulate licensed dealers, as recently proposed by the department.

Last January, after the collapse of several licensed dealers in Securities — most notably Norton Warburg, which crashed owing private investors nearly £5 million — the department published draft proposals for amending the licensed dealers' rules.

The council gives its full support to these suggestions only minor amendments.

The department's main proposals were that clients' money should be kept in a separate "client's account" which would be regularly monitored by the department, and that it should be a legal requirement for all licensed dealers to have full indemnity and fidelity insurance to provide protection for investors in the event of fraud.

These proposals are enthusiastically handled by the CSI, though it believes they

should be tightened up still further by defining precisely what can be paid into a client's account and what can be withdrawn.

The council also suggests several amendments on dealing practices, pointing out that dealers' books cannot be written up before a transaction is carried out. The recommendation is, therefore, that securities bought for discretionary clients should be allocated to those clients immediately, "and in so doing, the dealer shall not take a turn in the dealing price."

Talks on more joint ventures

By Peter Hill

British and Japanese government officials will meet later this month to discuss further industrial collaborative ventures. The British Government is actively encouraging exchanges with Japanese companies in the hope of stimulating collaborative deals and improving manufacturing efficiency.

But Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology emphasized yesterday that the Government was looking to the Japanese to show greater initiative at the forthcoming session of the Anglo-Japanese Industrial Cooperation Committee.

Rolls-Royce is already involved in a joint aero-engine project with three large Japanese companies, and more recently International Computers Ltd negotiated a deal with Japan's Fujitsu, under which ICL will market Fujitsu's large main-frame machines in Europe with the British company also gaining access to advanced micro-chip technology.

Mr Baker, speaking to the British Institute of Management said: "Both the Japanese and the British Government have made it clear that they wish to see more collaboration of this nature."

Ministers are facing renewed pressure from employers and trade unions for a redrawing of the Government's regional policy map.

Although Ministers and the Confederation of British Industry have rejected many of the TUC recommendations — including its main call for the introduction of regional labour subsidies — the CBI favours the TUC suggestion that the present map needs redrawing.

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where the best people meet.



COMMODITIES

● Cash tin remained under selling pressure yesterday and closed 210 down at £7,080 a tonne, after reaching £6,960 in the morning. But three months tin rose by £30 to £7,285 a tonne, producing one of the widest contangoes for many months. Much of the morning's selling was against options, dealers said. There was buffer stock buying in the afternoon. Mr Paul Leong, Malaysia's Primary Industries Minister, said that a meeting of all tin producers was likely to be held in Manila at the end of June. ● Big purchases of lead by the Soviet Union stopped the price decline and pushed cash prices up by £3.50 to £337 a tonne. The three months price strengthened from £342.25 to £343.75. Despatch led up to 15,000 tonnes of lead could be sent to the Soviet Union this month. London Metal exchange stocks might not rise as expected. More purchases could be made next month, but the rise is not seen as the start of a bull market. Zinc prices went up in sympathy with lead.

TODAY

Industry Select Committee on British Shipbuilders. Confederation of British Industry regional conference, West Midlands. Board meetings: Interims: Medminster, Mitchell & Coats. Finals: Antofagasta Railway, General Mining Union Corporation, Law Debenture Corporation, Macallan-Glenlivet, Ransomes Sims and Jeffries, Rea Bros, Rentokil Group, W N Sharpe, Tavenor Rutledge, Weeks Petroleum.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Average 7,474.42 up 165.01. Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,196.69 down 35.08.

CURRENCIES

● Rates moves narrowly in quiet trading with the pound recovering from a day's low of \$1.8125. LONDON CLOSE. STERLING: \$1.8230 up 90 points. Index 90.8 up 0.1. DM4.3200. Fr.11.0200. Yen 432.00. DOLLAR: Index 113.1 down 0.2. DM2.3710 down 67 pts. GOLD: \$353.50 down \$7.

MONEY MARKETS

● Period rates eased by about 1/8 per cent, in response to a forecast shortage of £300m, the Bank bought £38m of bills outright at unchanged rates and £206m for repurchase by the houses on March 24 at 13 1/2 per cent.

Domestic rates: Base rates 13 1/2. 3-month interbank 13 1/4-13 1/2. Euro-currency rates: 3 month dollar 14 1/4. -14 1/2. 3 month DM 9 1/4-9 1/2. 3 month Fr. 15 1/4-15 1/2.

UBAF

BANK LIMITED

Balance Sheet at 31 December 1981

	£		£
Share Capital and Reserves		Current Assets	
Authorised shares of £1 each	21,000,000	Cash, balances at bankers, money at call and short notice	169,105,209
Issued ordinary shares of £1 each	21,000,000	Bills discounted	697,250
General reserve	7,250,000	Deposits with banks	135,859,768
Retained profit	99,746	Certificates of deposit purchased	13,975,406
	28,349,746	Loans and advances	39,332,849
Shareholders' Subordinated Loans	11,102,403	Accrued interest receivable and other debtors	18,457,609
Total Shareholders' Funds	39,452,149		377,428,090
Deferred Taxation	7,692,901		
Current Liabilities		Loans and Advances repayable after one year	288,176,985
Current and deposit accounts	809,378,161	Leased Assets	20,240,723
Certificates of deposit issued	10,423,197	Investments - Unlisted at cost (directors' valuation)	822,867
Taxation	387,227	Fixed Assets	353,426
Accrued interest payable and other creditors	17,977,216		353,426
Proposed dividend	1,711,250		
	639,877,041		353,426
	£687,022,091		£687,022,091

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement

The trading profit for 1981 was £9,323,378 compared with £5,756,384 for the previous year. The sum of £2,000,000 has been added to general reserve. The Board has recommended a dividend of £1,711,250 (9.25% on the share capital averaged over the year). The paid-up share capital was increased from £16,000,000 to £21,000,000 on 30th June 1981.

P.O. Box 189, Commercial Union Building, St. Helen's, 1 Undershaft, London EC3P 3HT.

SHAREHOLDERS:

Ubc Nederland B.V. - 50%

Libyan Arab Foreign Bank - 25%

Midland Bank plc - 25%

BUSINESS NEWS

CAPITAL MARKETS

Borrowing on the international capital markets fell to \$11,990m (£6,588m) in February from \$13,850m in January and \$14,790m in December. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development said in Paris yesterday.

The fall was caused by a drop to \$4,470m in February in completions of medium and long term syndicated Euroloans to all the main groups of borrowing countries, OECD said.

Banco de Fomento Nacional, Portugal's state-owned development bank, has raised a \$120m syndicated loan from a group of banks whose agent is Manufacturers Hanover. The terms are the finest Portugal has obtained: 5 per cent over Libor for the first two years and 5 per cent over Libor for the remaining six years. Among the other banks participating are Banco Espírito Santo, Commercial de Lisboa, Bank of Tokyo, IBJ International, Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, State Bank of India, Arab Bank Investment Company, and Chuo Trust and Banking Company.

The World Bank has signed for a yen 20,000m, 10-year Euroyen bond, setting the coupon at 8.375 per cent and issue price at par. The bond, with payment due March 12, will be listed on the Luxembourg and Singapore stock exchanges.

The Asian Development Bank is making a yen 20,000m, 8.2 per cent, 12 year public bond issue in Japan at 8.65 per cent. Nomura Securities, Daiwa Securities, Nihon Securities and Yamachi Securities were the managing underwriters for the bonds.

Occidental Finance NY, Caracas, will float a \$100m maximum 10 year bond on the Swiss capital market until March 12. Terms of the bond, which is guaranteed by the parent company Occidental Petroleum, will be published on March 8. A group of 10 Japanese financial companies led by Industrial Bank of Japan have signed an agreement to provide a

Libre De Colon of Panama with yen credits totalling yen11,000. The credits will be used to finance developments of Colon City on the Caribbean sea side of the Panama Canal.

A Japanese Syndicate, led by the bank of Tokyo, has signed a contract to extend to Western Australia's State Energy Commission a yen 27,000m 15-year loan. The loan, carrying annual interest of the Japanese long-term prime lending rate, now 8.6 per cent, plus an undisclosed margin, will be used to buy large diameter steel pipes from Japan and Italy.

Taiwan Power Co has signed for loans totalling \$350m over the last week and will sign for another \$230m in the near future.

BIDS AND DEALS

Contract Papers Holdings, a private company controlled by Mr C. T. Van Hoon, has purchased the share capital and business of Howard Smith Papers. Both companies are based in London. The deal is based on estimated tangible net assets of £4.4m. The combined business with a projected turnover of £30m in paper distribution will become one of the independent suppliers to the United Kingdom market, Contract Papers say.

The freehold interest of 36-40 Maple Street, London W1, has been sold, for an undisclosed sum, to the Black Arrow Group through chartered surveyors Sinclair Gold-

smith, who were acting on behalf of Salcombe Investments. British Electric Tractor has purchased the 40.5 per cent minority interest in the equity of International Ferry Freight group for £2,222m. The rest of the equity is held by company within the group.

Orfordshire-based electronic components maker Dubai has joined forces with Ion Beam Technologies to develop fabrication equipment using liquid metal ion sources.

ROBERT FLEMING, Acting on behalf of Ion Beam has obtained up to £2.7m (about £1.5m) from investors in addition, Dublin will invest up to £300,000 (about £170,000) and will hold conversion rights with a future option to gain a majority shareholding in Ion Beam.

ALFRED WALKER will be reorganised on the basis that a new public company will be formed and an existing company will transfer to the new company. The transfer of assets will represent about 58 per cent of the net consolidated assets of the old company.

C. E. HEATH has made an agreed offer for the 20 per cent of the issued ordinary share capital of MOTOLEASE not held by the company. The price is covered by the issue of £490,000 10 per cent unsecured loan stock 1988 and by a payment of £10,000 in cash. The loan stock will not receive a Stock Exchange quotation.

Company news on page 18

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

Overseas Union Bank, one of the big four "Singapore" banks, announced group after-tax profit rose 62 per cent in 1981 to Singapore \$529m (£13.6m) from 1980.

Singapore Government-controlled Keppel Shipyard announced group after-tax profit rose 31 per cent to Singapore \$99.1m from 1980.

Sales rose 43 per cent to Singapore \$813m. Selangor Properties announced higher earnings for the year ended October but cut its dividends without explanation.

The Malaysian property company said after-tax profit rose about two-and-a-half times to Ringgit

LATEST RESULTS

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay date	Year's total
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m		
Compass (Q)	14.2(12.04)	0.42(0.28)	3.72(3.0)	2(1)	20/4	(3-1)
Coronet (Q)	87.5(70.7)	1.5(1.3)	11.5(10.4)	9.8(8.5)	29/4	(24-3)
Gen. Accident (F)	104.9(92.3)	43.7(39.8)	8.7(7.2)	1/7	16(13)	
Metanac	5.48(5.33)	0.05(0.21)	0.55(1.88)	0.5(0.5)	23/4	(1-3)
Metanac	18.7(18.9)	1.1(1.0)	5.0(4.7)	5.0(4.7)	8/4	6.0(4.7)
Ultramar (F)	1.35(1.38)	180(128)	84.3(69.3)	8(7)	8/4	13(11)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on profits per share. Shareholders in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown before and after tax. A loss is shown as a negative figure.

COMMODITIES

COPPER: Higher grade copper closed barely steady. Afternoon: 100 lb. cash, 100 lb. 30-day, 100 lb. 90-day, 100 lb. 12-month, 100 lb. 18-month, 100 lb. 24-month, 100 lb. 30-month, 100 lb. 36-month, 100 lb. 42-month, 100 lb. 48-month, 100 lb. 54-month, 100 lb. 60-month, 100 lb. 66-month, 100 lb. 72-month, 100 lb. 78-month, 100 lb. 84-month, 100 lb. 90-month, 100 lb. 96-month, 100 lb. 102-month, 100 lb. 108-month, 100 lb. 114-month, 100 lb. 120-month, 100 lb. 126-month, 100 lb. 132-month, 100 lb. 138-month, 100 lb. 144-month, 100 lb. 150-month, 100 lb. 156-month, 100 lb. 162-month, 100 lb. 168-month, 100 lb. 174-month, 100 lb. 180-month, 100 lb. 186-month, 100 lb. 192-month, 100 lb. 198-month, 100 lb. 204-month, 100 lb. 210-month, 100 lb. 216-month, 100 lb. 222-month, 100 lb. 228-month, 100 lb. 234-month, 100 lb. 240-month, 100 lb. 246-month, 100 lb. 252-month, 100 lb. 258-month, 100 lb. 264-month, 100 lb. 270-month, 100 lb. 276-month, 100 lb. 282-month, 100 lb. 288-month, 100 lb. 294-month, 100 lb. 300-month, 100 lb. 306-month, 100 lb. 312-month, 100 lb. 318-month, 100 lb. 324-month, 100 lb. 330-month, 100 lb. 336-month, 100 lb. 342-month, 100 lb. 348-month, 100 lb. 354-month, 100 lb. 360-month, 100 lb. 366-month, 100 lb. 372-month, 100 lb. 378-month, 100 lb. 384-month, 100 lb. 390-month, 100 lb. 396-month, 100 lb. 402-month, 100 lb. 408-month, 100 lb. 414-month, 100 lb. 420-month, 100 lb. 426-month, 100 lb. 432-month, 100 lb. 438-month, 100 lb. 444-month, 100 lb. 450-month, 100 lb. 456-month, 100 lb. 462-month, 100 lb. 468-month, 100 lb. 474-month, 100 lb. 480-month, 100 lb. 486-month, 100 lb. 492-month, 100 lb. 498-month, 100 lb. 504-month, 100 lb. 510-month, 100 lb. 516-month, 100 lb. 522-month, 100 lb. 528-month, 100 lb. 534-month, 100 lb. 540-month, 100 lb. 546-month, 100 lb. 552-month, 100 lb. 558-month, 100 lb. 564-month, 100 lb. 570-month, 100 lb. 576-month, 100 lb. 582-month, 100 lb. 588-month, 100 lb. 594-month, 100 lb. 600-month, 100 lb. 606-month, 100 lb. 612-month, 100 lb. 618-month, 100 lb. 624-month, 100 lb. 630-month, 100 lb. 636-month, 100 lb. 642-month, 100 lb. 648-month, 100 lb. 654-month, 100 lb. 660-month, 100 lb. 666-month, 100 lb. 672-month, 100 lb. 678-month, 100 lb. 684-month, 100 lb. 690-month, 100 lb. 696-month, 100 lb. 702-month, 100 lb. 708-month, 100 lb. 714-month, 100 lb. 720-month, 100 lb. 726-month, 100 lb. 732-month, 100 lb. 738-month, 100 lb. 744-month, 100 lb. 750-month, 100 lb. 756-month, 100 lb. 762-month, 100 lb. 768-month, 100 lb. 774-month, 100 lb. 780-month, 100 lb. 786-month, 100 lb. 792-month, 100 lb. 798-month, 100 lb. 804-month, 100 lb. 810-month, 100 lb. 816-month, 100 lb. 822-month, 100 lb. 828-month, 100 lb. 834-month, 100 lb. 840-month, 100 lb. 846-month, 100 lb. 852-month, 100 lb. 858-month, 100 lb. 864-month, 100 lb. 870-month, 100 lb. 876-month, 100 lb. 882-month, 100 lb. 888-month, 100 lb. 894-month, 100 lb. 900-month, 100 lb. 906-month, 100 lb. 912-month, 100 lb. 918-month, 100 lb. 924-month, 100 lb. 930-month, 100 lb. 936-month, 100 lb. 942-month, 100 lb. 948-month, 100 lb. 954-month, 100 lb. 960-month, 100 lb. 966-month, 100 lb. 972-month, 100 lb. 978-month, 100 lb. 984-month, 100 lb. 990-month, 100 lb. 996-month, 100 lb. 1000-month, 100 lb. 1006-month, 100 lb. 1012-month, 100 lb. 1018-month, 100 lb. 1024-month, 100 lb. 1030-month, 100 lb. 1036-month, 100 lb. 1042-month, 100 lb. 1048-month, 100 lb. 1054-month, 100 lb. 1060-month, 100 lb. 1066-month, 100 lb. 1072-month, 100 lb. 1078-month, 100 lb. 1084-month, 100 lb. 1090-month, 100 lb. 1096-month, 100 lb. 1102-month, 100 lb. 1108-month, 100 lb. 1114-month, 100 lb. 1120-month, 100 lb. 1126-month, 100 lb. 1132-month, 100 lb. 1138-month, 100 lb. 1144-month, 100 lb. 1150-month, 100 lb. 1156-month, 100 lb. 1162-month, 100 lb. 1168-month, 100 lb. 1174-month, 100 lb. 1180-month, 100 lb. 1186-month, 100 lb. 1192-month, 100 lb. 1198-month, 100 lb. 1204-month, 100 lb. 1210-month, 100 lb. 1216-month, 100 lb. 1222-month, 100 lb. 1228-month, 100 lb. 1234-month, 100 lb. 1240-month, 100 lb. 1246-month, 100 lb. 1252-month, 100 lb. 1258-month, 100 lb. 1264-month, 100 lb. 1270-month, 100 lb. 1276-month, 100 lb. 1282-month, 100 lb. 1288-month, 100 lb. 1294-month, 100 lb. 1300-month, 100 lb. 1306-month, 100 lb. 1312-month, 100 lb. 1318-month, 100 lb. 1324-month, 100 lb. 1330-month, 100 lb. 1336-month, 100 lb. 1342-month, 100 lb. 1348-month, 100 lb. 1354-month, 100 lb. 1360-month, 100 lb. 1366-month, 100 lb. 1372-month, 100 lb. 1378-month, 100 lb. 1384-month, 100 lb. 1390-month, 100 lb. 1396-month, 100 lb. 1402-month, 100 lb. 1408-month, 100 lb. 1414-month, 100 lb. 1420-month, 100 lb. 1426-month, 100 lb. 1432-month, 100 lb. 1438-month, 100 lb. 1444-month, 100 lb. 1450-month, 100 lb. 1456-month, 100 lb. 1462-month, 100 lb. 1468-month, 100 lb. 1474-month, 100 lb. 1480-month, 100 lb. 1486-month, 100 lb. 1492-month, 100 lb. 1498-month, 100 lb. 1504-month, 100 lb. 1510-month, 100 lb. 1516-month, 100 lb. 1522-month, 100 lb. 1528-month, 100 lb. 1534-month, 100 lb. 1540-month, 100 lb. 1546-month, 100 lb. 1552-month, 100 lb. 1558-month, 100 lb. 1564-month, 100 lb. 1570-month, 100 lb. 1576-month, 100 lb. 1582-month, 100 lb. 1588-month, 100 lb. 1594-month, 100 lb. 1600-month, 100 lb. 1606-month, 100 lb. 1612-month, 100 lb. 1618-month, 100 lb. 1624-month, 100 lb. 1630-month, 100 lb. 1636-month, 100 lb. 1642-month, 100 lb. 1648-month, 100 lb. 1654-month, 100 lb. 1660-month, 100 lb. 1666-month, 100 lb. 1672-month, 100 lb. 1678-month, 100 lb. 1684-month, 100 lb. 1690-month, 100 lb. 1696-month, 100 lb. 1702-month, 100 lb. 1708-month, 100 lb. 1714-month, 100 lb. 1720-month, 100 lb. 1726-month, 100 lb. 1732-month, 100 lb. 1738-month, 100 lb. 1744-month, 100 lb. 1750-month, 100 lb. 1756-month, 100 lb. 1762-month, 100 lb. 1768-month, 100 lb. 1774-month, 100 lb. 1780-month, 100 lb. 1786-month, 100 lb. 1792-month, 100 lb. 1798-month, 100 lb. 1804-month, 100 lb. 1810-month, 100 lb. 1816-month, 100 lb. 1822-month, 100 lb. 1828-month, 100 lb. 1834-month, 100 lb. 1840-month, 100 lb. 1846-month, 100 lb. 1852-month, 100 lb. 1858-month, 100 lb. 1864-month, 100 lb. 1870-month, 100 lb. 1876-month, 100 lb. 1882-month, 100 lb. 1888-month, 100 lb. 1894-month, 100 lb. 1900-month, 100 lb. 1906-month, 100 lb. 1912-month, 100 lb. 1918-month, 100 lb. 1924-month, 100 lb. 1930-month, 100 lb. 1936-month, 100 lb. 1942-month, 100 lb. 1948-month, 100 lb. 1954-month, 100 lb. 1960-month, 100 lb. 1966-month, 100 lb. 1972-month, 100 lb. 1978-month, 100 lb. 1984-month, 100 lb. 1990-month, 100 lb. 1996-month, 100 lb. 2000-month, 100 lb. 2006-month, 100 lb. 2012-month, 100 lb. 2018-month, 100 lb. 2024-month, 100 lb. 2030-month, 100 lb. 2036-month, 100 lb. 2042-month, 100 lb. 2048-month, 100 lb. 2054-month, 100 lb. 2060-month, 100 lb. 2066-month, 100 lb. 2072-month, 100 lb. 2078-month, 100 lb. 2084-month, 100 lb. 2090-month, 100 lb. 2096-month, 100 lb. 2102-month, 100 lb. 2108-month, 100 lb. 2114-month, 100 lb. 2120-month, 100 lb. 2126-month, 100 lb. 2132-month, 100 lb. 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3636-month, 100 lb. 3642-month, 100 lb. 3648-month, 100 lb. 3654-month, 100 lb. 3660-month, 100 lb. 3666-month, 100 lb. 3672-month, 100 lb. 3678-month, 100 lb. 3684-month, 100 lb. 3690-month, 100 lb. 369

PEOPLE

Judge not,
but ye
be judged

Scrubbing on advertisements may be bad, but it nearly becomes good when it is about judges. Two Men, members of the Billboard Advertising Association, have been charged with advertising a Marlboro cigarette by writing "Horses smell like BUCA UP."

Summing up, Mr Justice said he had the greatest sympathy with the judge who ordered a fine of only \$35 (£20) apiece. Coleman and the other judge said: "You can stub out a cigarette and you can sniff BUCA UP so quickly."

Personally, I am not so sure that the whole case has been the last word. Stevenson said: "No man should marry a woman who smokes. And what is smoking to a Chancellor, save a way of raising money. Remember the Roman emperor Vespasian, child of a public lavatory; he flipped a coin and said: 'Money has no smell.'"

● The only place that does without a bank is, I suppose, the cemetery, and along comes Lloyds Bank to help recapture the £153m City of London ratepayers are kindly spending on refurbishing the 25 acres comprising the Barbican Arts and Conference Centre and known as the City of the Dead. Lloyds has in fact the only branch of a bank in the cemetery, and it is a sub branch. Presumably, Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds and a director of the City Arts Trust will wait and see just how much conference trade the Centre generates now that just about every rival venue is grasping for business.



"I suppose this will mean another run of Star Trek..."

Win the pools
for just £40?

A pocket calculator could hit the jackpot for a small Cotswold firm. Dutchford of Cirencester, Gloucestershire, is about to market our first football pools forecaster, which so far this season is said to be consistently better than all other tipsters combined. "We call it the DataDraw," explains Keith Lindley, Technical Director. It is something like a calculator. It can be used for betting by any sort, but is particularly suitable for the League format. It uses data that is available each week in the newspapers, but it also allows the punter to feed in his own hunches. We've already had quite a few wins."

The forecaster is the brainchild of Don Wright, an ex-RAF navigator with a passion for playing games. Previously, he has been responsible for puzzles on the back of Kellogg's Cornflakes. Keith adds: "The DataDraw should start at just under £40."

Maxwell sticks
to hard Labour

How should millionaires socialise those who party to back? Should they protect capital, and support monetarists (plus three million unemployed)? The hard Left as a form of Danegeld? Or either in the middle? Erstwhile.

Labour MP and saviour of British Printing Corporation, Mr Robert Maxwell, has just said: "The SDP. Indeed he seemed yesterday to be falling for the Iron Lady's magnetic attraction. He told me: 'You must give Maggie credit for getting inflation down. But I did not vote for her and never would. I'm a die hard Labour man.'"

Peter Wainwright

NEW
APPOINTMENTS

Sir Humphrey Priddy has been appointed a director of Grindlays Holdings.

Mr R. N. Parnes, a managing director, has assumed responsibility for operations in the Middle East and Africa of Grindlays Bank Group. He succeeds Mr A. C. F. Thomson who retires from executive duties but remains a director of the bank and of Grindlays Holdings.

Peter Wilson-Smith

Why the big banks will keep
their record profits

WHAT THEY MADE

	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976
Barclays	557	524	528	373	295	198
Lloyds	388	290	277	185	173	148
Midlands	232	232	315	231	197	167
Nat West	494	410	441	305	241	165

*Different accounting bases

Three of the four big clearing banks have published their 1981 results and the figures are impressive. Lloyds Bank kicked off the reporting season with a one-third gain to £386m, National Westminster showed a 20 per cent rise to £494m and earlier this week Barclays announced an 8 per cent rise in profits to £557m.

The record profit — considerably higher than 1980 results — led to the windfall profits tax — might well prompt the man in the street to ask whether another special levy was in order.

The profits of three banks to have been reported so far total £1,447m compared with £1,224m in 1980 — an 18 per cent increase.

Midland is not expected to do as well as the other banks and some outsiders are even forecasting a fall in profits. But even assuming the worst — that Midland's profits are down from £232m to say £215m — the total profits of the big four would still show a 14 per cent gain to £1,665m during a year when much of Britain's industry was facing the worst recession since the 1930s.

Dividends have also been raised sharply. Barclays has raised 1981 dividends by 19 per cent and indicated a one-fifth rise for 1982. Nat West gave shareholders one-fifth more and Lloyds a one-quarter.

But despite these very high figures the clearing bank chairmen appear remarkably relaxed and the general feeling is that the banks should escape from next week's Budget largely unscathed.

The Government, after all, made great play of the fact that last year's windfall tax, which cost the big four a total of £315m, was a once-for-all impost.

But on top of that, the banks would certainly argue that the crucial element which made last year's profits so politically sensitive is less in evidence this year.

The windfall or endowment element in bank profits, which arises from high interest rates and which provided the main justification for last year's special profits tax, has been falling. Historically the banks have prospered from high interest rates because a large part of the deposits are in the form of current accounts, which do not pay interest to the customer although they now cost about 10 per cent to run.

During 1981 average bank base rates came down from 16.3 per cent the previous

Nat West's international banking division also showed an improvement in profits before loan interest despite the continuing problems with National Bank of North America, although if financing costs were fairly allocated, Nat West's international gains would probably prove less impressive than that of the other banks.

Leasing is another area where the banks made bigger profits last year, but it has also had a big impact in reducing the tax charge of two of the banks to report so far — a fact which will not be missed by those who feel the banks should be taxed more heavily. The reported tax charge at Barclays — for instance, fell from £152 to £105m last year and that of Nat West from £92m to £57m.

Much of this of course relates to overseas tax and after taking advantages of all the reliefs available to them the banks pay very little United Kingdom corporation tax.

On the basis of 1980 accounts, for instance, the big four clearing banks incurred a liability for United Kingdom corporation tax of only about £66m. This excludes deferred tax which they have provided for on the basis that it may become payable at some future date and is also after netting off relief for overseas taxation.

Rough guide though it is, it does bear out the point that the banks can greatly reduce their tax bill through leasing and — along with many other parts of industry — are not

taxed heavily on their United Kingdom profits.

In their defence, of course, the banks point to the benefits they provide for industry with their leasing business by providing a cheap form of finance for capital investment. They also argue that much of the tax advantage they gain through leasing is passed straight on to the lessee in the form of lower effective interest charges.

One of the main arguments put forward against the windfall profits tax by the banks was that it would eat into their capital bases and impair their ability to grow. On this score the banks appear to have weathered the tax pretty well and they have not been constrained from paying much higher dividends in 1981.

Midland Bank may prove to have been the worst sufferer when it reports results later this month. The windfall tax came as a particularly bad time for Midland. Last year it went ahead with the big and expensive acquisition of Crocker National Corporation in the United States and its recent profits performance has been poor.

However, the other banks have all emerged from 1981 with fairly comfortable capital ratios. Ideally of course bankers would like their capital bases to grow in line with their balance sheets but the fall in sterling against the dollar and other currencies has inflated the balance sheets of the banks.

Barclays, whose balance sheet grew by 30 per cent last year, did see its free capital ratio (which indicates the strength of the balance sheet) slip from 4 to 3.5 per cent. However, the £100m loan stock it is raising — it lost £94m through the windfall profits tax — will restore the ratio to 3.8 per cent.

An indication of the cost of the windfall tax of profits was given by Nat West which estimated that £14m of the £27m rise in loan interest last year represented the cost of additional loan capital to replace what it lost through the tax.

An important development of bank lending over the past year has been the big rise in mortgage business carried out by the banks, which are now thought to be providing about 50 per cent of all bank mortgages at the moment and has just topped £1,000m in mortgage lending. However, the impact on bank profits, although it will grow, is likely to remain fairly modest and probably has a depressing effect on margins.

had reserves which were less adequate than they were in 1975. In almost two-thirds of the countries examined, the reserves were not sufficient to buy three months imports, which is usually regarded as the minimum amount. These self-sufficient in oil or net exporters like Bolivia, Egypt, Guatemala and Mexico, as well as oil importers, like Jamaica, Thailand, Tanzania and Morocco.

Taken together, the developing countries possessed reserves equivalent to 3½ months imports, compared with three months in 1975 and a peak of 4½ months in 1978.

The question is whether the developing countries can now re-build their financial positions as they did after 1975. This looks increasingly unlikely. One difficulty is that the debt burden is higher now than it was in the mid-1970s. Moreover, the world recession seems likely to continue for some months.

This will reduce the Third World nations' scope for exporting their way out of trouble (whereas in 1976 the world economy was well on the way to recovery), and in the longer-term, it looks highly likely that the depression in oil prices will prove as transitory as in 1975, and to a lesser extent in 1978.

If the price resumes its upward trend, this will help sustain the increasing number of oil exporters. But if the oil importers have not got their finances into better shape by that stage, many of them will be in very deep trouble.

Base
Lending
Rates

ABN Bank	13½%
Barclays	13½%
BCCI	13½%
Consolidated Crds.	13½%
C. Hoare & Co	13½%
Lloyds Bank	13½%
Midland Bank	13½%
Nat Westminster	13½%
TSB	13½%
Williams & Glyn's	13½%

* 7 day deposits on sums of £10,000 up to £50,000 12½%
£50,000 and over 13½%

A delicate balance
for poorer nations

faces serious balance of payments problems. Its current account deficit last year was nearly \$12,000m, some 75 per cent up on the previous year.

External debt has soared and growth has slumped. Two weeks ago the Mexican

PERSPECTIVE:
OIL PRICES AND
THE THIRD WORLD

By Melvyn Westlake

Government allowed the peso to float freely against the dollar on the international currency markets, and it immediately fell by 30 per cent.

Mexico is something of a special case. Even so, several other oil exporters have felt obliged to ask their bankers for bigger loans.

A key factor for the Third World is the extent that lower oil prices stimulate higher economic activity in the industrialised nations. Higher growth in the West would help halt the slide in commodity prices and provide bigger markets for Third World exports. However, the oil price fall would have to go a good deal further before it has a significant effect on world growth.

In the meantime, it may well trigger off changes in the pattern of bank lending. One implication of a fall in the revenues of the oil exporters is that less money will be available to the banks for recycling.

Some oil exporters will be

DEFICITS OF NON-OIL DEVELOPING NATIONS

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
									(2)
Exports	88	108	130	148	182	241	248	268	287
Imports	117	123	142	170	225	289	303	325	354
Trade balance	-28	-15	-12	-21	-33	-48	-54	-57	-57
Services, private transfers	-9	-9	-7	-9	-15	-23	-26	-28	-28
Current balance	-37	-24	-19	-30	-48	-71	-81	-85	-85

Q3 1981 year on annual rate

Source: OECD December Economic Outlook

Business Editor

Spotlight on
the NCB

This government has got it in for the nationalised industries, remaining firm in its belief that they are innately inefficient and must be made to mend their ways.

It is not a totally unjustified presumption. Communist experience and successive enquiries have shown corporations suffer most of the diseases of large corporations with a dominant market position. The problem for the Government is how to get at these inefficiencies.

One approach, furthered yesterday with the National Coal Board (and with two water boards to follow), is to refer the industries to the Monopolies Commission for investigation. Several, including the Central Electricity Generating Board and the gas showrooms, have been referred to the commission in this way, and the reports have been of higher quality than most of its reports on commercial companies.

There is no reason to doubt that in the Coal Board's case it will not also be useful. For too long the Coal Board has been regarded as a sacred cow that cannot be directly criticised. On the whole it appears efficiently run but there is no harm for its management to face the inquisitors.

Alternative approaches being canvassed include a change in the structure of the industry, as proposed by the Think Tank. It is apparently gaining some Downing Street support. Under the Tank's suggestions, government departments would set up internal auditing bodies for their own nationalised industries, staffed partly by experts from the commercial world, and the industry boards would be reconstituted to give power to non-executive outsiders.

Parliament meanwhile is fiercely promoting its own preference for giving the Auditor General access to the industries and the Select Committees authority to review his reports.

Of course the drawback to all these suggestions is that such efficiency audits can barely touch the surface of a corporation whose profit and loss is decided by government policy towards pit closures, electricity generation and subsidies. The fundamental questions hovering over the NCB which is currently absorbing nearly £500m a year in subsidies — is whether the miners are prepared for pit-by-pit productivity deals,

whether the Government is prepared to force closures of less efficient pits in areas of high unemployment in favour of the new mines at Selby, and whether the Government should allow full competition to coal from imports or untaxed alternative fuels.

As long as this is so, then the danger of this massed assault is that, far from improving the efficiency of industries, it will divert attention from the fundamental structural problems and gravely damage morale in the corporations.

Budget
Top tax rates

It is a brave man who starts delving deeper into Hodge predictions so close to the start. But the more one looks at the scenario, the more one sees compelling political pressures for the Chancellor to concentrate his attentions on the corporate sector.

Whether that means selective help to industry and, perhaps, some initiative to help bulk industrial buyers of energy rather than a significant cut in the National Insurance Surcharge remains to be seen. But the fact of the matter is that the government is going to find it extremely difficult to persuade the electorate that this is in any way a good budget for them.

Even with the indexation of personal allowances in line with last year's (12 per cent) inflation, taxpayers would find the percentage of their income going in tax rising once more thanks to the extra they are going to have to pay for national insurance contributions.

Now all this may be inevitable in the sense that fewer in work have to pay a greater proportion of their income to support those out of work. But that is not going to make it any the more palatable. Nor, more particularly, is the fact that people seem certain to receive less in absolute terms in their first pay packet of the new tax year than in the last one of the old year.

That would not, however, be true of the higher paid were the Chancellor to index all tax bands. A married man earning more than about £15,000 (and with no mortgage) would start to find more money in his pocket, while for those paying tax at the top rate the proportionate tax take would actually drop.

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The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	Div (%)	Yld	P/E	Fullly
									Adjusted
125	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	125	—	10.0	8.0	—	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	71	+1	4.7	6.5	11.3	15.6	—
51	33	Armstrong & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5	—
205	187	Bardon Hill	198	-1	9.7	4.4	9.6	11.7	—
103	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	103	+3	15.7	15.2	—	—	—
104	67	Deborah Services	67	-1	5.0	9.0	3.3	6.3	—
131	97	Frank Horsell	130	-1	6.4	4.9	11.7	24.1	—
83	39	Frederick Parker	81	-1	6.4	7.9	4.1	7.9	—
78	46	George Blair	52	—	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	Ind Pref Castings	95	—	7.3	7.7	6.8	10.3	—
106	100	Isis Conv Pref	106	—	15.7	14.8	—	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	96	-1	7.0	7.3	3.0	6.8	—
130	108	James Burroughs	112	—	8.7	7.8	8.2	10.3	—
334	248	Robert Jenkins	248	—	31.3	12.6	3.4	8.8	—
61	51	Scruttons "A"	61	+1	5.3	8.7	9.4	8.7	—
212	129	Torday & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5	—
15	10	Twinkl Ord	13½	—	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinkl 15% ULS	78	—	15.0	19.2	—	—	—
44	25	Unicoll Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6	—
103	73	Walter Alexander	77	—	6.4	8.3	5.1	9.0	—
263	212	W. S. Yeates	228	—	13.1	5.7	4.3	8.8	—

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

Stock Exchange Prices

Nervous selling

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 1. Dealings End, March 12. Contango Day, March 15. Settlement Day, March 22
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

* Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

Buchanan's
the Scotch of a lifetime.

[illegible]

CRICKET

Prime Minister warns of grave implications

By John Witherow

The unofficial England cricket tour of South Africa seemed set to continue last night despite a strong warning from the Prime Minister to return home and a tougher statement from Margaret Thatcher warning of the international implications of the tour.

A letter from the Test and County Cricket Board delivered to the team members after they had started their first match warned them that they could jeopardise the India and Pakistan tours to England this summer, thereby affecting county finances and the possible future livelihood of their fellow cricketers. The appeal was made in the name of the Indian captain, reinforced warnings that India would cancel the tour if any of the players were involved in any of the tour.

Although the letter, which spoke of the "very strong reaction in England and other countries" to the matches, will not be the "decisive factor" in the tour, it is a "serious warning" to the players, who are expected to return to England on Tuesday. The letter was signed by the Secretary of the Test and County Cricket Board, Peter Royle, and it was too late to cancel the tour. The players, who are expected to return to England on Tuesday, are expected to return to England on Tuesday.

The text of the TCCB letter released in London yesterday said: "We must make you aware of the very strong reaction in England and other countries to the proposed participation by you and other English cricketers in international cricket matches in South Africa."

In particular, the India and Pakistan tours to the United Kingdom this summer could clearly be in danger if the proposed matches take place, thus seriously affecting county finances and the possible future livelihood of fellow cricketers.

"If it is thought practicable for you to do so, we urge you to reconsider your position and refrain from playing in any such matches."

Further Government disapproval came from Lord Carrington, the foreign secretary, who said in Nairobi that the tour was regrettable and "the results of this will be damaging to every body". If the players continue to ignore the appeal from the TCCB, their case will be discussed by a full board meeting next Tuesday when action, if any, will be decided. The TCCB, however, yesterday's letter did not repeat the warning made last August that players, Test cricketers could be jeopardised if they toured TCCB policy by appealing for representative teams in South Africa.

But as this is at the centre of the tour, it is not to tour with all its sporting and financial implications, it seems likely that some decision will be taken. The TCCB, however, had its fingers badly burned four years ago during the Kerry Packer episode when it tried to ban some players from Test and county cricket.

As a result of this resolution put forward yesterday by Northamptonshire which in effect proposes both the English and South African players from Test and county cricket seems unlikely to succeed. Maurice Fennell, secretary of Kent CC, commented: "It would appear as if first sight to be an extreme step in view of the likely legal difficulties involving a player's livelihood." Joe Lister, secretary of the TCCB, said: "We are not aware of any such difficulties."

It was also no clearer yesterday who would be the 13th player to join the side. Derek Randall, tipped as a possible recruit and presently playing in Australia, said he knew of no offer and was contracted to play for North Perth until April 7. After his commitments ended in Australia he would return to Nottinghamshire.

The Australian Government has expressed regret over the visit by the English cricketers to South Africa because of the Government's Genesee Agreement, a foreign affairs spokesman in Canberra said.

Every Australian first class cricketer has been aware of the probable consequences of playing cricket in South Africa. In a letter from the Australian Cricket Board last August each player was told that "participation on South Africa may place at risk your eligibility to play for Australia."

Australian Cricket Board chiefs yesterday were not surprised at the announcement of the South African visit by an unofficial team, but would not comment on it.

The former England captain, Tony Greig, who himself may be the thirteenth player to join the tour party, said in Sydney today that many top Australians might be induced to play in South Africa.

Prickles, Mar 3 - The strength of South Africa's cricketing talent was demonstrated here today when the under-25 XI restricted the English XI to 152 for seven in 66.2 overs on an easy-paced wicket and then scored 51 for one in the final period of the opening day of the two-day match.

Despite perfect conditions, the English batsmen struggled against the seam bowling of the captain, Adrian Kuper, aged 22, of Western Province, who took five wickets for 22 runs in eight overs.

Only the English captain, Gooch, top scorer with 33, and Anis, with 30, were able to handle Kuper. Boycott partnered Gooch in the first hour, but after a productive partnership of 33 for the first wicket in 55 minutes, Boycott, who scored only three in the first hour, contributed 13 runs.

Anis and Willey (25) put on 49 for the fourth wicket and then Knott shared useful stands with Embury and Lewis before Gooch declared shortly after tea. The under-25 side got off to a quick start, with Seiff hitting 18 off 23 balls including three fours, before he edged Taylor to Knott.

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'Mr Leicester' calls it a Day after years on top

By David Hands

Jerry Day, secretary of the John Player Cup holders, Leicester, is to resign his post at the end of this season after 17 years' service. He has threatened to do so several times in the last 18 months.

Yesterday he said: "I feel I need a rest from the demands of the job. The club is on the right lines and should go on being successful."

Mr Day has been associated with the club since 1945, when he played in the first season (1945-46) of the John Player Cup. When his playing career, at lock or flank forward, ended he soon became involved in the administrative side of Leicester's affairs.

He guided the club through some difficult days in the early 1970s to the eminence which has enjoyed over the last four years as England's most successful club.

Once described by another Leicester light, "Chalkie" Whittle, the coach, as a "visionary", Mr Day's influence was paramount when the club began its ascent in 1972, a team which has developed Paul Dodge, the present England centre.

His dry sense of humour concealed true affection for the Leicester club and a sincere concern for the state of the game in England. Happily he will continue on the club's selection committee and as a vice-president.

Leicester's former captain and England's hooker, said yesterday: "If they took over the goalposts they wouldn't be missed as much as Jerry." An apt comment.

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ROUND-UP

RUGBY UNION

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Improving Faldo set sights on victory

From Mitchell Platts

Severiano Ballestrero and Nicklaus who has carried into European tournament into the \$300,000 Bay Hill Classic who sits on the Bay Hill club on a course here today.

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British underdogs with tails up against Italian triumvirate

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Rome, March 3

The first about playing games with South Africans has some odd repercussions. A grand prize tournament in Copenhagen was cancelled because its organisers refused to upset South African competitors. So, a former Australian Davis Cup player, Ross Case of Queensland, is filling in a spare wheel by practising here with the British team, who play today in a first-round tie on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Another Australian Davis Cup player, Tim McKenna, who happened to be in London having treatment on his back, practised with the British players at a fortnight ago on the indoor shale courts at Wimbledon. Last week in Monte Carlo, they had an even more distinguished opponent: Bjorn Borg.

The British Davis Cup team tonight in these days. They have come to Rome with their morale high and two weeks of solid preparation behind them.

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Lendl drops out of Wimbledon

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Magri's way to escape from tight corner

By Selkman Gen

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Britons miss Copenhagen

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Toivonen leads

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Belle Robertson takes the lead

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Cumbrian catalyst for daring experiment

By Keith Macklin

Ninian Park to see the first game against Salford. More than 8,000 saw the Wales v England international, and there was no cause for alarm when the crowds slipped to around 4,000, a figure regarded as adequate.

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Stafford supreme

Atlantic City, March 3 - Roger Stafford, the United States welterweight, knocked out David Mader, of Mexico, in the first round of their 10-round bout.

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Fly & Drive in France. It's freedom all the way

Air France Holidays New Summer brochure lets you discover a France all your own with 'Fly & Drive' Holidays. We'll fly you to any regional capital of France. Your self-drive car will be waiting - left-hand drive and in first-class condition with unlimited mileage. All the problems of long road journeys or overnight travel, special insurance and motorway tolls are eliminated.

RACING

Cheltenham's £2m wisely spent

By Michael Phillips Racing Correspondent

How money is spent for the benefit of the public is guaranteed to provoke endless argument. With so many different parties interested in a share of the cake, the only hope is to please some of the people some of the time. It will be interesting to see what the reactions are when Cheltenham's latest face lift is unveiled by Lord Plummer, before the start of this year's National Hunt Festival in just under a fortnight.

When it was announced that the Levy Board had agreed to loan Cheltenham £1.6m to help finance the next stage of its redevelopment, which has just cost £1,965,000, there was criticism that the project was unnecessary and that the money could be better spent elsewhere. However, when the critics see what has been achieved in the last 11 months I believe that they will concede that the money has been used to good effect.

The redevelopment has entailed a new parade ring and weighing room, a covered tote betting hall, a betting shop near the paddock, a horse walk front of the stands that will allow horses to return to the unsaddling enclosure after each race in full view of spectators, new bars and new cloakrooms.

What I particularly like is the way that the hill there has been built to create a vast amphitheatre. This will enable many more people to get a better view of the action and, in the long enclosure than hitherto and also create an excellent atmosphere.

Miles Gosling, Cheltenham's chairman, is convinced that the public will approve of the new area behind the stand which has been increased substantially to provide better circulation and he is also sure that the inclusion of the winners' enclosure in one end of the parade ring will also go down well.

I am also convinced that the public will like seeing a glimpse of their heroes as they walk back after the race in front of the stands. Hitherto, the victors and the vanquished have had to trek back between the course and the car park out of sight from one and all.

In spite of the considerable cost of the improvements, the price of admission for the three-day Festival remains unchanged from last year, with club badges at £15 and a three-day badge available up to next weekend for £20.

The meeting scheduled for Lingfield Park today was abandoned yesterday because the rain was too much for the waterlogged ground. Leaving Ludlow holding the stage.

Last year Martin Pipe caused one of the sensations of the season when he trained Baron Blakeney to win the Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham. Baron Blakeney, a horse who should be waterlogged, was the hot favourite, Broadsword. Now, pipe, who trains near Wotton Bassett, is beginning to entertain hopes of winning the same race at Cheltenham with Cornish Granite, who runs in the first division of the Cornish Novices Hurdle this afternoon.

Cornish Granite began his jumping career well enough at Wincanton a week ago when his victory clearly did not take him by surprise as he was backed down to 6-1 from 10-1 beforehand.

To stand any chance of following in Baron Blakeney's footsteps at Cheltenham, Cornish Granite must first deal with Peter Anthony and Jupiter Express today. Peter Anthony has already won over today's course and distance, while Jupiter Express performed with notable promise in the same race, considering that it was his first venture on a racecourse. With John Edwards' stable currently on a crest, expect Jupiter Express to take advantage of the 10th he receives from the other two.

Now that the majority of Tim Forster's horses have shrugged off the after effects of the virus, which played such havoc with the stable's plans, he should be surprised if Very Light wins the Forth Gold Cup, At the expense of Lewis Homes and Osprey.

Most of Forster's horses have needed a race since the stable virus, but there is ground for believing that Very Light will have improved since he ran so well to finish half a length behind Fort Fox at Huntingdon.

Lingfield cancelled

Today's Lingfield Park meeting was cancelled because the course was waterlogged, bringing the number of National Hunt fixtures lost this season to 81.

Levy decision page 2

Rodman enjoys himself on way to Festival

Fred Winter landed his fifth winner of the season when Rodman, a 5-4 on favourite, had confidence-boosting victory in the Sidbury Handicap steeplechase. Rodman, who has been in problems with his jumping, but gave a fine exhibition yesterday and never put a foot wrong.

Winter said: "I know it is a bad race, but he couldn't have won any easier. It was just what the horse wanted, and he will now go to Cheltenham where he has a chance of three engagements." Rodman was watched by his American-based owner, Mrs Joan Ceballos, who will make the return trip to England when the horse runs at Cheltenham.

The gambler of the race was on Prince of Pleasure, backed from 7-1 to 4-1, but he showed reluctance to struggle under the final two fences when under pressure from Peter Scudamore, and finished third.

Three other Cheltenham contenders were successful at Wetherby. Saint Jonathon, who ran in the Derby and the Guineas, showed he has great potential over hurdles when landing his first success at the winter game in the first division of the Cornish Novices Hurdle. He beat Pericles by a runaway 10 lengths.

Saint Jonathon will now run in either the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices Hurdle at the Festival or the Panama Cigar Hurdle final at Chepstow on March 13. The winner, who started at 5-2 on, was always going easily in the hands of John O'Neill. He cruised to the front twice out, and won the race with a mistake at the last, won impressively.

The Drunken Duck earned a place in the Foxhunters at

Steel Trader (right) leads Lilac Lady on his way to a Worcester win

Cheltenham with a battling four-length victory over Killamoon in the Arnold G. Wilson Lad Supreme Novices Hurdle. Broderick Munro-Wilson, who rode the five-year-old, who fought back bravely, was the winner.

The Newmarket trainer, Jeremy Hindley, landed his first jumping winner for nine years when Arkan beat Latest Love by a length in the Harewood Novices Hurdle. Arkan, confidently held up by Robert Searns, led on the run-in, taking over from Latest Love, who had shown the way from three out.

Hindley said: "He blew up after today's race, and I will give him one more outing next week, before he tackles the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle". Hills immediately topped Arkan at 25-1 for the four-year-old crown at Cheltenham on Saturday.

The 2-1 favourite, from Peter Easterby's Maltby Yard, finished a well-beaten third.

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Ludlow

1.45 BORDER TOWNS HURDLE (Handicap: 1591; 2m)		
1	0000	CLASSIC TALENT (A Baker) 5-11-10
2	0000	COLD BLOOD (A Baker) 5-11-10
3	0000	ROCKE GRANGE (A Baker) 5-11-10
4	0000	GAMBLING MAN (A Baker) 5-11-10
5	0000	BIG MAN (A Baker) 5-11-10
6	0000	MUSICAL BOND (A Baker) 5-11-10
7	0000	ROCKE GRANGE (A Baker) 5-11-10
8	0000	MELFORD WEST (A Baker) 5-11-10
9	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
10	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
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12	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
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49	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
50	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
51	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
52	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
53	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
54	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
55	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
56	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
57	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
58	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
59	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
60	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
61	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
62	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
63	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
64	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
65	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
66	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
67	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
68	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
69	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
70	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
71	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
72	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
73	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
74	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
75	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
76	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
77	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
78	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
79	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
80	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
81	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
82	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
83	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
84	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
85	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
86	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
87	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
88	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
89	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
90	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
91	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
92	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
93	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
94	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
95	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
96	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
97	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
98	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
99	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
100	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10

Wetherby results

1.45 COWHORS HURDLE (Handicap: 1591; 2m)		
1	0000	CLASSIC TALENT (A Baker) 5-11-10
2	0000	COLD BLOOD (A Baker) 5-11-10
3	0000	ROCKE GRANGE (A Baker) 5-11-10
4	0000	GAMBLING MAN (A Baker) 5-11-10
5	0000	BIG MAN (A Baker) 5-11-10
6	0000	MUSICAL BOND (A Baker) 5-11-10
7	0000	ROCKE GRANGE (A Baker) 5-11-10
8	0000	MELFORD WEST (A Baker) 5-11-10
9	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
10	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
11	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
12	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
13	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
14	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
15	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
16	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
17	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
18	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
19	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
20	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
21	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
22	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
23	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
24	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
25	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
26	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
27	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
28	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
29	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
30	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
31	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
32	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
33	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
34	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
35	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
36	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
37	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
38	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
39	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
40	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
41	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
42	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
43	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
44	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
45	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
46	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
47	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
48	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
49	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
50	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
51	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
52	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
53	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
54	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
55	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
56	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
57	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
58	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
59	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
60	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
61	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
62	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
63	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
64	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
65	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
66	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
67	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
68	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
69	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
70	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
71	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
72	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
73	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
74	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
75	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
76	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
77	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
78	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
79	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
80	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
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89	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
90	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
91	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
92	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
93	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
94	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
95	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
96	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
97	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
98	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
99	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10
100	0000	PRINCE LAD (A Baker) 5-11-10

Worcester results

Being Good to sell		Duchessmoye, C Grant (7-1) 2 10-12-10, 12-10-10		Going heavy		Scholtz, Mrs J M Broadbroke (5-1) 2 Ballymurry (5-1) 2	
1.45 (2) COWHORS HURDLE (Hw 1) Novices (6800) 2m		TOTAL Wm, 212c, places, 120c, 25p, 18p DUE: Wm, 49c, C&F, 88c G W Fuchars, at 5-11-10, 12-10-10 (7-1) 4th 11-10		1 30 (3) PERRY HURDLE (Hw 1) Novices: 1890 2m		TOTAL: Wm, 150c, places, 10c, 21c, 35c, 18c, Dual 1 72p, C&F 51 07, Tricard 117 77, 10-12-10, 12-10-10	

